Nancy Quattrone

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
JANUARY 1974 "Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18. VOL. XVII NO. 1

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

Certainly a lot of things have happened here at Bethel in recent weeks.

There was a big increase in the printing and placement of magazines world wide last year. So, now about a hundred brothers and sisters have been transferred from Brooklyn to Watchtower Farm to provide magazine supplies from the facilities there.

Meanwhile, here at Brooklyn the night shift in the factory has been expanded to increase book production. Since November 5 the night workers alone have been producing an average of some 80,000 additional books during each work period. In just one week recently over a million books were completed by the combined shifts! We rejoice that the interest you are finding in the field requires this great quantity of literature.

About the middle of November the first copies of the *1974 Yearbook* came off the bindery lines. At Bethel we get some of the very first copies, and we have been reading about two pages from it each morning at breakfast. Have you been reading it? Don't miss it! It looks like it is just what we need to prepare us for what lies ahead. And, as a suggestion, if there are any who were at one time associated with your congregation but have become inactive, why not take them a copy? When they read about the faithfulness and endurance of their brothers around the world it may prove to be just what they need.

As you know, the "Divine Victory" assemblies have not all been held as yet. Brother Knorr attended some of the recent ones and he said that in Mexico there were nineteen simultaneous assemblies, with 5,607 baptized. The total attendance of 170,091 was almost 110,000 more than the number of publishers. Just think of it! In Mexico City the crowd was so great that people even climbed onto the roof to get a glimpse inside. In Guatemala, where 493 were baptized, the attendance of 9,856 was about triple the number of publishers. Isn't it marvelous to know that so many are showing a desire to learn about the approaching divine victory?

And now, how about the distribution of *Kingdom News* No. 17? After having seen what it contains, we were excited about it. When you write about other things, no doubt you will share with us experiences had in this special work. It is our prayer that this message will aid many more to get out of "Babylon the Great" and into Jehovah's organization.

May Jehovah bless you richly as you continue to aid others to search for our loving God. We send you a warm expression of our love.

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Aid Others to Search for Jehovah

1 It was to unfaithful Israelites that the appeal was directed: "Search for Jehovah, you people, while he may be found. Call to him while he proves to be near." (Isa. 55:6) This indicated that Jehovah's toleration of unfaithfulness had a limit. At the time of the execution of his judgment it would be too late to "search" for him, to come into a good relationship with him.

2 The position of all mankind today is similar to that of the unfaithful Israelites. Through us, as his witnesses, Jehovah is appealing to humans everywhere to come into an approved standing before him. (Acts 17:30, 31; 1 Tim. 2:3, 4) The time for this is now greatly reduced.

3 The criticalness of the situation certainly impresses upon us the importance of being whole-souled in our efforts to aid others to "search" for Jehovah. This should stir us to devote as much time to Kingdom-preaching as possible.

4 At times we meet people who say, "I get everything I need from my church." But they need to be made aware of the seriousness of their situation. As was suggested in the November *Kingdom Ministry*, you might ask whether their church has explained to them the meaning of Revelation 18:4. Have you been doing that? After reading or paraphrasing the text, show that this is an appeal on the part of God to his people. If they can be helped to recognize the importance of knowing what "Babylon the Great" is and of acting in harmony with that knowledge, they may be willing to study the Bible with you.

5 In the month of January we will be going back into the territory covered with *Kingdom News* No. 17. That powerful message directed against false religion needs to be followed up. Some people may have questions. Do not let cold weather discourage you from having a full share. Endeavor to participate in the house-to-house work regularly each week. The sooner we are at the doors of those who received the tract, the sooner they may be helped to act on what they have read. *The Watchtower* is a fine instrument in assisting them to do just that. The material it contains has been prepared with them in mind. Be enthusiastic about encouraging them to subscribe.

6 In helping people to search for Jehovah, we do not want to overlook the many who shared with us for the first time in tract distribution. They will need help to learn how to be effective Witnesses, using the Bible. Many will appreciate it if you offer them help. Will you do that?

7 May the month of January find all of us using every opportunity to help others to search for Jehovah.

★ Aid Others to Search for Jehovah While He May Be Found. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING JANUARY 13

12 min: Song 102. Introduction, text and comments. Also, choice portions of Branch Letter.

15 min: "Aid Others to Search for Jehovah." Questions and answers. Invite audience to read and comment on scriptures.

15 min: Improving Your Ability in the House-to-House Ministry.

Two new publishers approach experienced brother to request assistance. They have shared in tract distribution; one has done magazine work. Would like to learn to use Bible at doors, to share in offering subscriptions, etc.

Discuss together and demonstrate as in "practice session" the following: (1) Introduction that is simple, friendly, really touches on something that is on mind of average householder. (2) Use of Bible. Actually read from it where possible; sometimes it is better to quote or to paraphrase text. In current sermon, we have several verses, all on the same page. Discuss brief comments that can be made on the scriptures. (3) Offering subscription. Show an appealing subject in current issue; read some comments from left-hand column on page 2, offer enthusiastically. (4) If questions are raised, simply answer from what you have learned. "Make Sure" can help you to locate scriptures. If you do not know the answer, offer to find it and to return.

Experienced publisher arranges to spend some time personally working with each of the other two in field ministry this weekend.

8 min: Accounts report. Also review with congregation appropriate points from instructions on "How to Handle Subscriptions Properly" (in congregation file).

10 min: Concluding comments. Include comments on 2 Peter 3:13, 14, 17, 18. "Watchtower" study material for January 20 and 27 is timely and vital for all of Jehovah's people; urge all to attend. Song 107.

WEEK STARTING JANUARY 20

15 min: Song 115. Introduction, text and comments. Include Theocratic News, also Question Box.

10 min: "Reaching Those Who Speak Another Language." Discuss article, also local plans. Encourage magazine work this week.

12 min: Are You Using the "Comprehensive Concordance"? Discourse.

It is a provision to help us improve our knowledge and effective use of God's Word. Ideas on how to use it:

To find a scripture that you remember having read or heard. Look under any word that you know is in the text. If you know approximately where it is in the Bible, start looking in that part of the list; it will save time. If you have difficulty in locating a particular text, use suggestions on page 6 of "Concordance."

If you simply want scriptures on a particular subject, but have none in mind, look up that subject and then select appropriate texts from those listed.

As part of your teaching on a home Bible study, you could show the student how to use it. This may enable him to study more productively on his own. Illustrate: Variations of the word "soul" appear almost a thousand times; "immortality" only three times, and never with the word "soul." To emphasize God's love, under "loving-kindness" show 26 listings for 26 verses of Psalm 136. Significance of name "Jehovah" is shown by the fact that over 25 pages are required to list the occurrences of this name.

Parents might use it effectively in teaching children. For example, quiz them on a variety of subjects for which they must find a Bible answer; have them use "Concordance" along with Bible. Or, if a child needs to have a certain matter impressed on his mind, possibly because he has been negligent in caring for assigned chores, he might be assigned to look up the fourteen references under "lazy" and to list the various reasons given in those verses for avoiding laziness.

No doubt you have a copy of the "Comprehensive Concordance" in your home library; make good use of it.

23 min: Meeting Together Even in the Face of Difficulties.

Audience discussion; include reading of selected portions from "1974 Yearbook." Plan carefully in advance, considering available time.

Ask audience: (1) Why do we come together for meetings? (Deut. 31:12; Rom. 1:11, 12) (2) Why is it important to meet together regularly? (Heb. 10: 25; 1 Cor. 10:12) (3) What could you do about obeying these Bible commands if our work were banned and this Kingdom Hall were closed? ("Organization" book, p. 186)

There is much that we can learn from the experiences of our brothers in Germany. Beneficial to do so; the same enemy, Satan, is still trying to disrupt our service to God; we personally may feel greatly increased pressure in days to come.

Arrange in advance for publishers to answer these questions by reading or paraphrasing brief excerpts: (4) Once banned, where did our brothers meet? (Highlight locations mentioned in "Yearbook" on p. 130, par. 1; p. 145, par. 4; p. 146, par. 2; p. 152, par. 1; p. 181, par. 3.) (5) How did they show discretion as to the time of arrival at the meetings? ("yb" p. 135, par. 3) Good to consider whether we would appreciate meetings enough to go that early. (6) What precautions did the brothers take while meeting together? ("yb" p. 144, par. 5; p. 194, par. 3) (7) If under ban, what literature could we use for study at our meetings? ("or" p. 186; "yb" pp. 114, 115; p. 191, par. 4; p. 194, par. 1)

If we are determined to be obedient to Jehovah, and rely on him, he will bless our efforts. Briefly relate experience in "Yearbook" on pp. 135-138, emphasizing that those brothers risked life and freedom to meet together; not one held back. And, despite danger, they also went out to call on their neighbors with the Kingdom message. As of now we have much freedom; use it wisely. Be sure to attend public talk and "Watchtower" study this week; the study material is vital. Share fully in the field ministry.

Conclude with Song 7.

WEEK STARTING JANUARY 27

15 min: Song 3. Introduction, text and comments. Include talk on article "How Strong Is Your Love of Truth?" from October 1, 1973, "Watchtower."

10 min: Experiences in Field Ministry. Plan in advance. Invite publishers to relate experiences enjoyed during recent weeks. Might include results from offering "Watchtower" subscription, also Kingdom News No. 17 and joy of making return visits.

15 min: Improving Your Ability in Disciple-making.

Two publishers approach experienced brother to request help in making return visits, starting Bible studies. To date, they have only gone from door to door, but not called back; feel unqualified.

Discuss together and demonstrate, as appropriate, the following: (1) What to note on House-to-House Record with a view to making return call. (2) What to do on initial call to prepare the way for return visit. (3) Preparing for the call. Keep it simple, but stress value of preparation, having something definite in mind that fits needs of specific householder. (4) How to use chapter 1 of "Peace and Security" book to start a study. Point out the grouping of paragraphs on first two pages; can cover this briefly and then concentrate on Scriptural material starting with paragraph 9. Emphasize that all the needed material is right there in the book. Discuss what to do if questions arise to which new publisher does not know the answer. (5) When to make return visits; value of spending some time in this work regularly each week.

5 min: Benefited by the "Yearbook."

Two publishers walk up aisle toward platform. One mentions that he read something very interesting in "Yearbook." Reads aloud experience from India, on page 20, par. 4. Both comment on fact that angels are directing field ministry (Rev. 14:6; Matt. 25:31, 32); want to put themselves in position to be used by the angels; mention arrangements for witnessing on weekend; make plans to go out together.

15 min: Concluding comments. Incorporate choice items from "Insight on the News," in recent issues of "The Watchtower"; emphasize Scriptural viewpoint. Encourage use of magazines in field service. Song 6.

WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 3

13 min: Song 20. Introduction, text and comments. Family discusses; then chairman analyzes with father what was done and what can be done to involve all the family and help them to appreciate how it affects their lives.

10 min: Thorough Territory Coverage. It is important for everyone to hear the Kingdom message. Draw from audience comments on what they do when no one is at home; effort put forth to call back; reaching persons in apartment houses, permanent hotel residents, etc. Have one or two well-organized publishers comment on how they keep their service records so that they stay in good condition and are not lost. If some territory is in special need of attention, inform congregation.

15 min: "What About Those Who Still Hold Back?" Talk, along with experiences about helping such persons. Discuss application of material to local needs. Emphasize reaching heart as we teach. If certain ones do not progress, explain why it may be best to discontinue studying with them.

12 min: Presenting the Good News. Questions and answers. Include any local experiences that fit this material.

10 min: Concluding comments. Include any appropriate Announcements. Comment on Hebrews 10:36. Song 21.

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What About Those Who Still Hold Back?

1 Most of us know of interested persons in our territory who have responded favorably to the Kingdom message. We have studied with some through the *Truth* book and, in some cases, other publications as well. They attend meetings from time to time, show a willingness to be identified with Jehovah's witnesses and profess to accept most of the fundamental teachings of God's Word. Yet, they do not join us in the preaching work. They hold back from 'disowning themselves' and getting baptized. (Matt. 16:24; 28:19) Is there something more that we can do to help them?

2 Such ones may have a knowledge of Jehovah's purposes but have yet to acquire the necessary love for him. (Eph. 3:18, 19) Put simply, the truth may be in their *head* but not yet in their *heart.*

3 In studying with them, encourage them to give thought to the implications of what they are learning. Reason with them in such a way that they will ask themselves: What will this ultimately mean for me and my family? If they have learned, for example, the identifying traits of the true religion, can they honestly say that their former religion is the true one? If not, then it must be a false one and part of the empire of false religion for which God's Word clearly foretells destruction in the near future. Logical reasoning dictates that ties maintained with that system will ultimately bring death.

4 Try to get them to think in terms of *applying* what they learn. For example, they may have learned that the celebration of certain holidays is not pleasing to God. The question now is, What will they do when these celebrations come along? How will they react when their relatives, friends and working companions try to involve them?

5 Sometimes they hold back because of reluctance to accept some fundamental truth. They may frankly tell you, for example, that they are unable to take a firm stand on the use of blood transfusions. After reviewing what the Bible has to say on the matter, try to help them to analyze the basis for their objection. Can they honestly say that the Bible is not clear on the subject? Probing questions may reveal that they actually hold back, not because they cannot see the Bible's teaching, but because they fear the reactions of others if they follow it. The issue, then, boils down to one question: Whom will they try to please—God or man?—Prov. 29:25.

6 Time grows short and the need for a definite stand becomes increasingly urgent. With discernment in our teaching, we may be able to cultivate their heart appreciation so that they will take their stand on Jehovah's side while there is still opportunity.

Announcements

◆ Literature offer, January through April: *Watchtower* subscription, with three booklets, for $1.50. If you wish, include *Awake!* subscription, along with six booklets, for $3.00. Continue to carry copies of the *Thousand Years* book and the pocket-sized books, offering them when appropriate.

◆ On March 31 all congregations will have a special public talk on the subject "Surviving on the Victorious Side at Har–Magedon." A copy of the manuscript will be sent to each congregation in due time.

◆ The Memorial for 1974 will be held on Sunday, April 7, after 6 p.m., S.T. Other meetings that are normally held on Sunday should be scheduled for another day. Memorial invitations may be ordered in lots of 250 for 25c, 500 for 50c, or 1,000 for $1. Please be sure that exact payment accompanies each order.

◆ After January 1, 1974, congregations may begin ordering the *Watch Tower Publications Index* for 1973; 10c each. All orders for this item will be charged to your congregation literature account. The Society also has a good stock of 1971 and 1972 Indexes.

◆ Before submitting subscriptions for the *Watchtower* campaign, please review carefully the instructions in the *Organization* book on page 152, also the memorandum on "How to Handle Subscriptions Properly."

◆ If it is necessary for you to call the Society's Brooklyn offices, keep in mind that the phone number (212) 858-1240 is a number that may be used.

◆ A new series of eight public talk outlines will soon be sent to all congregations. We encourage you to include these in your meeting schedule before the month of June.

OCTOBER SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	698	146.8	60.3	4.8	179.8
Pios.	17,824	99.8	37.8	2.9	118.0
Temp. Pios.	13,298	85.7	26.3	1.3	104.6
Pubs.	443,303	10.3	4.6	.5	16.2
TOTAL	475,123				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 4,601

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

HOW DID WE DO IN OCTOBER?

There was an 8.1-percent increase over last year's average number of publishers, and that is fine! It is true that many who shared in tract work in September were not out again in October. They have shown a desire to serve Jehovah, but now they need encouragement to follow through.

The total of subscriptions obtained was down somewhat. But there was a fine new peak in number of regular pioneers; it is good to see that 814 more arranged their affairs to get into this branch of full-time service. Also, magazine placements, return visits and home Bible studies all showed fine increases.

Reaching Those Who Speak Another Language

1 What can we do when we meet persons in our territory who speak a foreign language? We would like very much to share something with them. In some cases, we make a futile attempt to communicate and finally end up simply smiling and walking away. When that happens, we feel a sense of frustration because we know we have something that they need and it is disappointing when we fail to reach them.

2 Perhaps your congregation has sections of territory where some foreign language is predominantly spoken. You may have expressed concern from time to time about being unable to communicate with these people, particularly when something really outstanding is published. Here is a suggestion: Congregations holding such territory may wish to order a supply of the foreign-language issues of *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* in which special articles are to appear. A concerted effort could then be made to work this foreign-speaking territory, offering the magazines that contain these timely articles.

3 In some cases, perhaps the field overseer can arrange for a small group of publishers to concentrate on reaching these foreign-speaking people. If the territory is quite large, more extensive arrangements can be made.

4 Calls could be made simply inviting the householder to obtain the magazine for the usual contribution. If it is difficult to communicate due to the language barrier, you may find it helpful to use the "*Preach the Word*" booklet. Or, you may decide it is best just to leave the magazines as a gift, hoping they will be read.

5 The material that we had in the October 8, 1973, *Awake!* in English on the subject "Where Is This World Heading?" would be a fine issue to use in this way. That same material will be published in the April 8, 1974, *Awake!* in French, Greek, Hiligaynon and Melanesian-Pidgin. It will be in the April 22, 1974, *Awake!* in Afrikaans, Cebuano, Danish, Dutch, Iloko, Italian, Korean, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish, Tagalog and Zulu. It is in the January 8, 1974, *Awake!* in German and Japanese. If you request the January issues, we will ship whatever is available; they have already been printed. Orders for the April issues should be submitted by February 1 so that we can

(*Continued on page 4, col. 2*)

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

With a Willingness to Adjust to Circumstances

1 Everyone is busy these days, including us. The daily schedule of activity keeps family members in most households scurrying about trying to get everything done. When we locate someone who shows interest in the truth, it may be quite difficult to make contact with the person later because of conflicting schedules. When this happens, are you willing to make some adjustment in your personal activity to accommodate the individual? If we truly have a tender affection for sheeplike ones, then we will try to work out things for their advantage, showing a willingness to inconvenience ourselves, if necessary, to help them.—1 Cor. 10:24; Rom. 15:1, 2.

2 Some communities have many shift workers who are required to work at odd hours. If you find such a person who shows interest, would you be willing to call early in the morning or perhaps late at night to conduct a study?

3 Wives who want to study will often request that you conduct a study at a time when the husband and the children can be present. In other situations, there may be opposing relatives in the home and you will be asked to come at a time when they are absent. Some circumstances might require that you conduct the study in your own home or possibly somewhere else. Would you do so?

4 It is not unusual to locate an interested person who can study only at a time when you have no car available or you are unable to get someone to go with you. If it is necessary, would you be willing to take public transportation or even walk to get there? If there is no one to accompany you, would you go alone if it were safe to do so?

5 It is a common thing to make arrangements for a study and find, after you get there, that something unavoidable has come up that prevents them from having the study. If they sincerely appreciate the study and ask you to return later during the day or possibly another day during the week, would you gladly do so?

6 Many congregations have territories that are not worked regularly because they are a distance away and considerable traveling is required to work them. Do you feel enough concern for the people in that area so that you are willing to spend the extra time and travel expense necessary to reach them?

7 Often it is difficult to find people at home on the weekend when most of us are able to share in the field service. If it were suggested in your congregation, would you be agreeable to an adjustment in meeting times or service arrangements so that your efforts would accomplish greater good?

8 An opportunity for a good study may present itself at a time that your family has set aside for recreation or caring for personal matters. Would your family members be agreeable to making other arrangements or even to forgo something unnecessary so that you could conduct a Bible study?

9 Of course, it is up to each one of us to decide the extent to which we can reasonably adjust our affairs to accommodate those who want help. However, if we feel like Paul, we will be willing to 'impart our own souls,' working night and day to assist sheeplike ones to learn of the hope that can save their lives. —1 Thess. 2:8, 9.

Another Language *(Cont'd)*

notify the printing branches of your needs before the printing is done. When ordering this *Awake!*, we suggest that you also obtain the April 1 issue of *The Watchtower* in the case of monthly editions, and the April 15 issue of semimonthly editions. Thus people will become acquainted with the fine material in both magazines.

6 Of course, in areas where foreign-language congregations are functioning and they have been assigned to care for the foreign-speaking population in your territory, there would be no need for this arrangement.

7 The critical urgency of the message prompts us to give everyone an opportunity to hear it. Perhaps this will provide still another means to get the message into the hands of people who may be grateful for it.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ Despite being under martial law, Chile was able to report a new publisher peak of 10,119. Many Bible students are now attending meetings.

◆ Greenland reports two brothers visited the northern isolated part of the country and in two months traveled 1,250 miles, placing 182 books, 1,373 magazines and obtaining 86 new subscriptions.

◆ The Philippines had a new peak of 60,821 publishers. Magazine placements up 50,000 from last October now that magazines are being printed there.

◆ Nigeria reports a new peak of 93,715 publishers in October.

Question Box

● What factors should be considered if you are thinking about moving to serve where the need is greater?

Much good has been accomplished by publishers who, with a desire to serve Jehovah whole-souled, have offered themselves for such work. And there still are areas where there is considerable need for zealous publishers.

Of course, not everyone's circumstances are the best for this sort of work. Congregations needing assistance usually are small, located in less populated areas and have few theocratically experienced brothers. So, if you have just recently been baptized, it might be wise to stay with a larger congregation until you gain sufficient experience. If you are experiencing some serious personal problem or are under some restriction by a judicial committee, it would be beneficial to stay where you can get the spiritual help you need. Young persons may encounter problems if they are in an isolated area without the guidance and assistance of their parents or some older person. And a brother with a large family to support may find it difficult to care for that responsibility if he moves into an economically depressed area. Before deciding to move, it is good to consider factors such as these that have a bearing on one's spiritual condition.

If you believe that your circumstances are suitable for a move, then talk it over with your family, also the elders in your congregation, realistically analyzing your reasons to be sure you are prompted by a desire to do more in Jehovah's service. A long move may not be necessary; consult with your circuit overseer about the needs in your own area. If you wish, write the branch office for suggestions, making sure to provide us with all the information requested in the "Organization" book on page 135.

When you decide on a location, it would be wise to visit the area to get some idea about the climate and to get acquainted with the brothers. You can inquire about school facilities, and investigate opportunities for housing and employment. If you find that you truly will be able to do more in Jehovah's service by making the move, then by all means do so, with full trust in Jehovah. But if, even at this point, such a move does not seem wise, remember that there is much that you can do in Jehovah's service where you are right now.

★ Can You Cover All Your Territory with the Subscription Offer? ★

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEBRUARY 1974
VOL. XVII NO. 2

"Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18.

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

All of us have reason to be overjoyed about what is taking place in the ranks of Jehovah's people world wide.

Weren't you thrilled to learn that 193,990 had symbolized their dedication by water immersion during the 1973 service year? That was the highest number in the history of Jehovah's servants! And the increase has not slowed down. Already, during the first three months of this service year, Canada, Austria, Brazil, the Philippines and the United States have reported tremendous increases in the number baptized, increases exceeding by over 50 percent the outstanding number immersed during the same period last year.

Here in the United States we also had another fine month in the field during November. The largest number to date—18,687—shared in the regular pioneer work. All together, 478,795 reported field activity—54,453 more than last November. We were featuring the book *God's Kingdom of a Thousand Years Has Approached*, and nearly a million books were placed—986,399 to be exact. A grand witness was given.

A few early reports have come in about distribution of *Kingdom News* No. 17. We heard about a priest who held up a copy in church, warning his congregation not to accept it. The result? At least one man eagerly asked a Witness for a copy. In another place, a man who read it called a local Witness promptly and told him that for years as a church member he had been trying to understand the Bible but that now he knew why he was having difficulty; he wanted a home Bible study. What a privilege to have a part in finding and helping such people!

These are thrilling times in which to be alive. It is true, there are mounting problems for everyone as the old order deteriorates. But by our keeping in mind what it all means—that the incoming of God's new order is at hand—we will be helped to keep first the interests of the Kingdom, and we will encourage one another to successful endurance.

Be assured of our warm love and heartfelt prayers on your behalf.

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Do Your Utmost

[1] The marvelous prospect of eternal life under the righteous kingdom of God awaits the survivors of the end of this wicked system of things. All of us want to be among the survivors, so we need to continue to 'do our utmost' to please Jehovah now. This includes helping others of honest heart to learn of our loving Creator and his provisions for salvation.—2 Pet. 3:14.

[2] The desire to 'do our utmost' to aid others should move us to be zealous in the field ministry during February, even though, in most parts of the country, the weather is cold and often disagreeable. We can dress warmly, ask householders if we can step in for a few minutes where advisable, work apartments if available and business territory. And, among other things, it is an excellent time to make return visits and start studies.

[3] Well appreciating how the *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines have aided us and will help many more, at every opportunity let us offer a year's subscription. Three booklets are to be given free with each new one-year subscription. Or, if your congregation has a stock of bound books copyrighted in 1961 or earlier, one book may be given free with each new one-year subscription. If the subscription offer is not accepted, endeavor to leave two magazines for 10 cents.

[4] If you have older magazines that have accumulated, it would be well to leave a copy where you find no one at home. (See June 1969 *Kingdom Ministry*, "Question Box.") That people are attracted to the truth of Jehovah's Word by *just one magazine*, a publisher wrote: 'No one was at home, so I left under the door a magazine. The young man who lived there read the magazine and discussed it the next day at work with a man who happened to be a Witness. A Bible study was started with the young man, all from a sample magazine being left under his door.'

[5] Have you tried offering both subscriptions for $3.00? A special pioneer reports: 'I finally convinced myself last month to offer both subscriptions from house to house and on return visits. In one month I obtained 21 subscriptions. Sixteen of the total were double subscriptions.'

[6] In doing our utmost, let us also be diligent in making expired-subscription calls. During the four-month *Watchtower* campaign, over 300,000 expired-subscription slips will be sent to congregations in the United States. These return visits are a fine avenue not only for obtaining subscriptions, but also for starting Bible studies. By sharing in this work, perhaps you will be privileged to enjoy an experience like this one: 'I made a call on a former subscriber and offered her a free home Bible study. The study was started that very day, and within six months, though opposition came from her husband, she was attending almost all meetings. Now she is going out in the field ministry, has the joy of conducting two home Bible studies, and is looking forward to getting baptized at our next circuit assembly.'

[7] Why not look in the various places where you may have put expired-subscription slips that you received sometime in the past, and follow through on them now. Also, have you considered making a list of persons on whom you have made return visits, and then encouraging

(*Continued on page 2, col. 1*)

★ Encouraging Others to a Successful Endurance. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 10

10 min: Song 5. Introduction, text and comments.

3 min: Accounts report.

18 min: "Do Your Utmost." Question-and-answer discussion. Demonstrate how a subscription can be obtained using an expired-subscription slip. If time permits, experiences resulting from expired-subscription-slip calls.

17 min: "Serving with a Spirit of Willingness." Panel discussion.

12 min: Concluding comments. Branch Letter and field service report of congregation for January. Song 6.

WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 17

12 min: Song 3. Introduction, text and comments, and Theocratic News.

10 min: Question Box, also items from Announcements.

13 min: Interview some who have shared in temporary pioneer service. Get comments on variety of benefits they or their family have received and the added blessings resulting from additional field service.

13 min: "Presenting the Good News—Using the Bible." Question-and-answer coverage. As time allows, audience can relate experiences and comments they have heard relating to our use of the Bible. (Paragraph 4.) Demonstrate use of single scripture. (Paragraph 5.)

12 min: "If Your Address Changes." Concluding comments. Song 4.

WEEK STARTING FEBRUARY 24

15 min: Song 29. Introduction, text and comments. Family discussion of text after meal is concluded, developing into analysis of who in the family may be in position to temporary pioneer during April with the cooperation of other family members. Can discuss actual examples in congregation or use material in yb68, p. 76, and yb71, pp. 92, 93.

20 min: Talk on "Harmonizing Our Employment with 'Love of Neighbor.'"

15 min: Preaching the Good News in Troubled Times.

We can learn much from the experiences of our brothers who have carried on their ministry under difficult conditions. To receive full benefit, however, we must ask ourselves: 'What would I do?'

Invite audience to comment on the following points; have individuals prepared to relate selected experiences. (1) What commission in connection with the good news have we been given? (Mark 13:10; Matt. 28:18-20) (2) Why is the house-to-house method of preaching so effective in fulfilling this commission? ("or" p. 114) (3) In some places Jehovah's witnesses have been banned; it could happen here too. Would you still have the responsibility to preach even if it might result in arrest and imprisonment? (Acts 5:27-29; 8:1, 4; Rev. 1:9; yb74 p. 132) (4) How could we carry on house-to-house preaching if our ministry were banned? (yb74 pp. 141, 155, 156) (5) In what other ways might we make contact with persons to whom to witness? (John 4:6-15; yb74 pp. 55, 141, 186, par. 4) (6) How could we carry on the preaching work if no literature were available to offer? (yb74 p. 20; yb70 p. 312) (Could we do as our brothers and sisters in Singapore are now doing? Now is the time to improve our ability to use the Bible in our field ministry by doing so each week.—Heb. 4:12) (7) How might caution be displayed in making return calls where interest is shown? (w72 p. 138)

10 min: Concluding comments. Report on subscription work to date and experiences in obtaining subscriptions. Song 28.

WEEK STARTING MARCH 3

10 min: Song 37. Introduction, text and comments.

17 min: "The Christian View of Courtship" and "Keeping Courtship Honorable." Talk by experienced elder, based on articles in January 1, 1974, "Watchtower."

18 min: Worshiping the God of Peace. Audience discussion based on "Aid" book, pages 1279-1281. Chairman to direct discussion to highlight what is most appropriate to local needs and circumstances. Some might be assigned to epitomize scriptures, but allow all to express selves freely as time allows.

While world makes strenuous efforts to achieve peace in our generation, world does not and cannot find genuine peace, "peace" in the Biblical sense. What is this peace? How is it obtained in our own personal life and in association with others?

(1) Besides referring to state of being free from war, what other ideas are associated with "peace" in the Biblical sense? ("Aid," p. 1279, pars. 9, 10) Give examples of such usage. —Luke 7:50; 2:29; Deut. 23:6.

(2) Who is the Source of peace? ("Aid," p. 1280, par. 1; Num. 6:26; Ps. 4:6-8) How important is righteousness to the possession of peace?—Ps. 85:10; Isa. 32:17.

(3) What is the "peace of God that excels all thought"? (Phil. 4:6, 7) How do we individually obtain it? How does it influence our lives? ("Aid," p. 1280, par. 5) How does Jesus Christ impart peace to us?—Col. 3:15.

(4) Use Scripture texts to emphasize the importance of preserving peace in the congregation, among ourselves as Christians.—2 Tim. 2:22; Heb. 12:14; Rom. 14:13.

(5) How do elders and ministerial servants show they are 'pursuing peace' in dealing with one another and with all in the congregation? —Rom. 12:10; Gal. 6:1, 2; 5:22, 23.

(6) How does our work of Kingdom-preaching and disciple-making contribute to our identification as true worshipers of the God of peace?—Eph. 6:15; Col. 1:20-25.

Chairman may make brief, motivating conclusion.

15 min: Concluding comments. Encourage all who can to make plans to serve as temporary pioneers during April. Ones who are making such plans could be interviewed. Include points from "How to Succeed in the Pioneer Service," June 1, 1971, "Watchtower," pages 334-339. Song 38.

Do Your Utmost *(Cont'd)*

them to become subscribers? A pioneer did, with these results: "One afternoon I got all my return visit records together, even some dated several years back. I made a list of the names and telephone numbers of all those I once studied with or obtained subscriptions from, and various ones I formerly called on. I started calling these on the telephone that same afternoon, and, to my surprise, I obtained 44 subscriptions from the ones I reached by telephone, by arranging to call on them later that afternoon and throughout the week."

⁸ Gift subscriptions have been the means of helping numerous relatives and friends to accept the truth. Here is one experience: 'I tried to witness to my mother for many years without too much result. About a year ago I sent her a gift subscription. Thereafter she would write and mention some of the articles that were of interest to her. When her subscription expired, she wrote and said she was not getting her magazines anymore and really missed them. I wrote you brothers, renewing her subscription and asking you please to send someone to talk to her. A few days ago I received a letter from my mother saying that someone called on her. A Bible study was started, and my mother is now attending meetings on Sunday.'

⁹ With so much to do, let us by prayerful and careful forethought make the month of February a warm and agreeable month of blessings for us and interested ones as we 'do our utmost' in approved service to Jehovah.—2 Tim. 2:15.

If Your Address Changes

Among the millions of persons who move each year are some of our brothers and interested persons. When there is an address change, what can be done to assist with the delivery of personal subscriptions and of literature supplies sent to the congregations? The following is provided for your reference:

Personal Subscriptions: A new Subscription Change of Address form (M-205) has been sent to congregations. It should be used to advise the Society of an address change only for personal subscriptions. The slip can be obtained from the one looking after the accounts records. When additional supplies of the M-205 form are needed, they can be ordered on the Literature Order Blank. If the M-205 is not

(Continued on page 8, col. 1)

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Harmonizing Our Employment with 'Love of Neighbor'

More than eighty years ago the *Watchtower* magazine (April, 1891) published a letter in which one of its readers told how he had quit the use of tobacco "with the help of the Lord." Thereafter *The Watchtower* on a number of occasions encouraged others also to free themselves from this form of slavery.—Aug. 1, 1895; Nov. 15, 1905; Feb. 1, 1912; Mar. 1, 1935; July 1, 1942; Feb. 15, 1950; Apr. 1, 1954; Feb. 15, 1969; Nov. 1, 1971.

Over the years the light of truth on this subject grew brighter and brighter, until Jehovah's witnesses saw clearly where Christians today should stand on this issue. *The Watchtower* of June 1, 1973, presented the Scriptural reasons why it is wrong to use tobacco personally and showed that baptized Christians who are tobacco users would be removed from the Christian congregation. Baptized persons who were using tobacco were allowed a reasonable period of time in which to free themselves from the addiction.

The Watchtower of July 1, 1973, gave examples of dedicated Christians who, in recognition of the detrimental effects of tobacco on the human family, exercised their conscience in refusing to grow tobacco any longer. It pointed out too how some had quit working for companies that manufacture and distribute cigars, cigarettes and tobacco products.

The *Kingdom Ministry* of November 1973 also contained an article on how tobacco users should be viewed by the Christian congregation.

Since then a number of questions have been raised concerning the growing, selling and distributing of tobacco and tobacco products in connection with one's employment. There are some types of employment that are quite clearly in open conflict with the Bible standards. Thus, Jehovah's witnesses have long refused to recognize as approved members of the congregation persons who make their living at gambling, or by producing idolatrous objects, or who do work that is directly contrary to the ways of peace described at Isaiah 2:4. When one's work is clearly contrary to Bible standards, it can rightly result in one's being rejected by the congregation, disfellowshiped. The Bible itself sets the standard or rule that is the basis for such action.

The Watchtower has presented a clear-cut statement showing the damaging effects of tobacco on the body and rightly categorizing it as a harmfully addictive drug. Various governmental authorities have recognized the harmful effects of tobacco but up to now have not outlawed the use of tobacco or its production. The legality of tobacco does not alter the basic wrong involved in producing or selling for gain a product that is harmful to one's neighbors. To illustrate, a country might declare marijuana legal (even as some states may have legal prostitution), yet the person who made his living from the production or sale of marijuana would still clearly not be a suitable member of God's congregation.

Therefore, a person who owns a tobacco store, or one who has accepted employment in a factory devoted to producing tobacco products, or a salesman whose business is selling tobacco, or a farmer who controls the raising of crops on his farm and who chooses to raise tobacco should recognize that he has a responsibility for what he is doing. How can his Christian conscience allow him to bring harm to his neighbor when he is in a position to exercise control over what is being done? The brothers should be able to weigh the seriousness of the matter and also weigh the heaviness of the responsibility that individuals have in matters of employment where a wrong practice comes into the picture. There should be no doubt as to the gross wrong on the part of those who gain their principal source of income from promoting the use of tobacco at the expense of the well-being of their fellowman. Such a course is an open contradiction of the basic command to love one's neighbor as oneself. —Matt. 22:39.

Then there is the person who owns a store and stocks tobacco as a minor item among the many things he sells. He may say he would prefer not to stock it but that his customers demand it, and this may have some basis in fact. He does not feel he is an active promoter of tobacco. Yet, even though his responsibility may be less than that of one whose main means of living is gained from tobacco, what is his reason for acceding to his customers' demands? Is it not to retain their business and the gain that this brings? Since he is the owner of the store and has control of what is sold there, the responsibility falls directly upon him, and his Christian conscience should move him to dispose of all tobacco stock and not replace it, even though this may result in some financial loss to him. Surely he would be able to adjust his affairs within a reasonable period of time, say three months, and relieve himself of such responsibility, even though suffering some loss, and so be able to continue as a member of the congregation. If a customer inquires why he does not sell tobacco, he can explain that he is being a good neighbor and doing good to others.

By comparison there may be a Christian who is simply an employee in an establishment that sells tobacco *incidentally* and who has no voice or control in what is sold. For example, an employee in a restaurant may be called upon by a customer to sell him a cigar which the management stocks. Or, one may be working in a food market; groceries and meat are the principal products sold, but the owners stock tobacco as an incidental item. The Christian employee may be expected to collect money for items that are sold, including the tobacco. Personal conscience would have to dictate what he or she in this situation could and should do as to handling tobacco products to this extent. He may prefer to ask the employer to relieve him of any handling of these objectionable materials. Unless a serious issue would arise, such employee would not be restricted from serving as a pioneer, an elder or a ministerial servant in the congregation.

Some questions occur when a store is owned by partners, only one of whom is a baptized Christian, or where a Christian is hired as manager of a place of business, or when working under a franchise arrangement and tobacco is being sold there. The basic consideration in these cases would be whether the Christian has control of the business to the extent that he can stop the handling of tobacco products. In a partnership arrangement the partner or partners who are not in the truth may insist that the sale of tobacco continue there and the Christian may not be able to prevent it. In such cases a Christian desiring a good conscience in the matter may inform the partners that they take full responsibility for the tobacco sales and that he does not wish to receive any share in the profits on sales of tobacco products. If a manager is required by the owner of a business to sell tobacco along with other items, then the Christian will have to determine in his own conscience whether he is able to continue his employment under those circumstances or not. Some may choose to disengage themselves from such businesses. Where continuing, the local elders may ask those individuals to show them that their stocking and selling tobacco in the place of business is not a result of their own choice or decision.

A person whose employment or principal work is handling, processing, manufacturing or selling tobacco or tobacco products is contributing to the addiction of other persons. If a dedicated, baptized Christian finds himself working in such an objectionable type of employment, he should arrange within a reasonable time, perhaps three months, to find other employment that would not be out of harmony with the requirements of the Scriptures for Christian living. On the other hand, if after such time period he would decide to remain in the objectionable employment, it would be necessary for the congregation to take action and expel the individual from the congregation.

Growing tobacco also constitutes being a part of the tobacco industry and is as objectionable as using tobacco personally or making a living by selling tobacco products. A dedicated Christian who owns his own farmland has control over what he will plant and must take responsibility for what his farm produces. As *The Watchtower* of July 1, 1973, indicated, the Christian conscience should move one to do good toward others. Tobacco does not do good for the human family. Therefore, why should the Christian farmer be involved with the production and sale of a tobacco crop?

In the United States the government has arranged for what are described as "tobacco allotments" for the land that is being farmed in the tobacco-growing areas. A percentage of the land may be used for raising tobacco, or a certain number of pounds of tobacco may be produced under the allotment arrangement. Some have asked what a brother should do when he has a tobacco allotment with his land. He does not have to use it but can grow other crops on his farm. Granted, according to letters received, the greatest income from any crops raised may be from the tobacco crop. If the brother refuses to grow tobacco on his land in the future, it may mean financial loss to him, but at the same time it would mean gaining a good conscience toward God and a good standing with the congregation. (1 Tim. 1:5, 19) In these days of increasing food shortages, a Christian farmer can do good for his neighbors by producing foodstuffs instead of doing injury to them by producing tobacco.

There are brothers who are renters of land on which there is a tobacco allotment and the same principles would apply. A Christian farmer would avoid any objectionable employment by producing crops other than tobacco or similar addictive drugs.

If a brother owns land on which there is a tobacco allotment and rents or leases it out, he would not want to become involved in some sharecropping arrangement where he knows beforehand that the renter will produce tobacco on the farm. The same would be true of leasing out one's tobacco allotment. Surely he would feel a responsibility for knowingly being involved in and gaining money from the production of harmful tobacco. So, to the extent that he has control over the matter, he would want to see that his land which may be rented out for farming would be used for production of crops other than tobacco, if he wishes to continue as a member of the congregation.

Under these circumstances some Christian farmers in tobacco-growing areas may conclude that the only practical course open to them is to go into some other business and to leave farming. They may even decide to sell their land on which the tobacco allotment has been assigned by the government. Would there be any objection to a Christian's selling his land on which there is a tobacco allotment? There is no reason why the Christian farmer should feel a responsibility for what someone else does with the land after he has sold it. It becomes the responsibility of the new owner and if he chooses to use the tobacco allotment, that would not be the concern of the Christian farmer who sold the land and would not affect his standing with the Christian congregation.

Some of the correspondence indicates that brothers have already signed contracts and given their word that they will be farming certain land and producing tobacco. Some may have already rented their land to someone for the next year or longer. Whether these brothers will be able to cancel or relieve themselves of such contracts in some way is not known, but it will be commendable for them to seek ways to avoid being involved in growing any more tobacco. In some cases it may not be possible for the Christian farmer to terminate a contract on which he has given his word and made a legal agreement. He may have made the arrangement in good faith and without appreciating that what he was doing was really improper for a Christian. In such cases it would seem to be reasonable that the Christian farmer explain his situation to the judicial committee of the congregation, pointing out what he has done to try to relieve himself of the obligation to produce tobacco and showing the committee the signed contract or evidence of the agreement. In such instances the local elders can give consideration to the individual case and do not have to expel the Christian farmer from the congregation if he complies with his word previously given in the contract and fulfills that contract. However, during the time when a contract directly involves a person with tobacco production, it would be inappropriate to use him as a pioneer, an elder or a ministerial servant in the congregation. In his present situation he is not "irreprehensible" or "free from accusation." (1 Tim. 3:2, 10) But as soon as the contract is finished, if the Christian farmer enters into another contract for growing tobacco, he would be subject to expulsion from the Christian congregation.

Inquiries have been received about employment on farms owned by someone else on which tobacco is produced. Here the position would be similar to employment in a worldly company where the Christian employee asks his employer if he may work with things that do not offend his Christian conscience, in this case with other crops that may be grown (grain, fruits and vegetables). On farms there may be livestock to handle or work in taking care of buildings not used for tobacco products. A Christian's conscience and understanding of Bible principles will cause him to avoid sharing in tobacco production. For some hired farm workers it may mean seeking employment elsewhere, just as some have done who did not want to become involved with gambling, producing Christmas products, working for and being paid by Babylon the Great, etc., and be subject to removal from the congregation. A Christian woman married to a worldly man who farms tobacco can take care of housekeeping and cooking and other domestic duties and share in farm activities not directly involved with tobacco growing.

As is true in the case of tobacco users, if there is a grower or seller of tobacco who was once a baptized member of the congregation but who left the organization *a long time ago* and does not now claim to be and does not have local recognition as being one of Jehovah's witnesses, and his activity causes no community reproach or disturbance in the congregation, it would not be necessary for the elders to search him out and inquire whether he is working with tobacco, and neither is it necessary that they take action against such a worker who no longer associates with the organization. But if public reproach is caused by one who occasionally associates with the congregation or is identified as one of Jehovah's witnesses, the elders do have responsibility to maintain the congregation's name for cleanness and to safeguard its right standing with God.

All Christians recognize that the light of truth is shining brighter, and as the years have passed many things have become clearer to us. (Prov. 4:18) True, years ago some may not have understood the import of scriptures such as John 17:16, Isaiah 2:2-4, Isaiah 65:11, Acts 15:29, Revelation 18:4 and others, and had employment that those scriptures show to be wrong. Yet, as the understanding has become clear and the light brighter, dedicated Christians have always been ready to come in line with the Scriptures and divest themselves of any business or employment found to be out of harmony with Scriptural instructions, even though it may have meant some personal financial loss. (You may have observed how some brothers have lost their employment because of insisting on taking time to attend a convention against the employers' wishes. Some overseers have lost their employment because of going to the Kingdom Ministry School where they could equip themselves to serve the brothers better in their congregation. However, we have always seen that, by putting faith in Jehovah and trusting in him, they have been able to work out their problems, secure other work and continue to provide the necessities of life for their families, just as Hebrews 13:5 points out.) More recently we have come to see the issue clearly with regard to use and handling of tobacco and tobacco products, coca leaves, betel nut and other such harmfully addictive drugs. With full faith in Jehovah God, who is the great Provider of all good things, we are confident that Jehovah will take care of the necessities of his servants who in good conscience keep serving him faithfully. Those who put the Kingdom interests first and keep seeking the Kingdom will not be destitute of the material necessities.—Matt. 6:33; see also Philippians 3:7-9; 4:11-13.

Some have inquired if the principle involved at Deuteronomy 14:21 would apply with respect to selling cigarettes or tobacco products to people of the world. In that law God acknowledged that unbled animals sold to the foreigners would be used by them for food. There is no known physical harm that would necessarily result therefrom, and such foreigners were already spiritually unclean before Jehovah. The eating of such meat did not change matters for them physically or spiritually. On the other hand, as regards tobacco products, we know that these are not a food, are in no way beneficial to one's body, but are definitely harmful. How, then, can we appeal to the consciences of others if we ignore this and allow personal gain to outweigh love for neighbor?

With full confidence in Jehovah God each one should seek to do the will of Jehovah and gain His favor. Jehovah will not abandon his faithful ones. It is sincerely hoped that all those who are involved with tobacco or similar products will have good success in working out matters so as to have a good conscience before Jehovah God and, as a result, continue to have a happy share in spreading the good news.—Ps. 37:25-29.

Announcements

◆ Literature offer for February through April will be a year's subscription for *The Watchtower*, with three booklets or one of the 50c bound books copyrighted in 1961 or earlier, for $1.50. Subscriptions for both *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* may be offered with two of the older bound books for $3.00. As of September 1, 1973, congregation inventories showed over 198,000 bound books copyrighted in 1961 or earlier among congregations. If your congregation has more older books than publishers can use, please contact nearby congregations to see if they can help to move your supply of older bound books. Reimbursement of individual publishers and of congregations for such books given free with new subscriptions will be handled in the same manner as outlined in the October 1972 *Kingdom Ministry*. None of the old books are stocked by the Society.

◆ In correspondence to the Society, when submitted by the presiding overseer, please be certain that the name of the city and the congregation are given in the return address. When anyone else writes to the Society, it would be appreciated if the name of the city and the congregation with which that one is associated would be stated in the body of the letter.

◆ It would be good for book study conductors to cover about 8 or 9 pages each week at the book study. Doing so will enable you to cover the book *God's Kingdom of a Thousand Years Has Approached* in about a year.

◆ If you have not already done so, now is the time to order handbills for the special public talk on March 31; also Memorial invitations. The special April 15 *Watchtower* will feature the subject "Surviving on the Victorious Side at Har–Magedon." The April 8 and April 22 issues of *Awake!* will also be special ones. Have you ordered sufficient? If not, please do so now.

◆ Temporary pioneering in April: It may be desirable for the presiding overseer to arrange a meeting soon at a time convenient for those interested in temporary pioneering in April. Many arrangements can be worked out for group witnessing, etc.

◆ New Publications Available:

Listening to the Great Teacher —Laotian, Melanesian-Pidgin, Motu, Papiamento
"This Good News of the Kingdom" —Hungarian, Kwale
Sermon Outlines —Hungarian
"The Nations Shall Know that I Am Jehovah"—How? —Italian, Portuguese
Organization for Kingdom-preaching and Disciple-making —Greek, Tagalog
Theocratic Ministry School Guidebook —Afrikaans, Chishona, Greek, Ibo, Xhosa, Zulu
The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life —Laotian, Tshiluba
"Singing and Accompanying Yourselves with Music in Your Hearts" —Yoruba

◆ Out of Stock in U.S.A.:

Jehovah's Witnesses in the Divine Purpose —Spanish
From Paradise Lost to Paradise Regained —Dutch, German
The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life —Efik, Lingala, Samoan, Vietnamese
God's Kingdom Rules—Is the World's End Near? —Albanian

◆ The following forms and tracts are no longer being printed by the Society:

Study Record (File copy) (Former S-2)
Subscription Record Sheet (Former S-10)
Change of Address (S-49)
Regular Pioneer Information Letter (S-203)
Vacation Pioneer Information Letter (S-204)
Weekly Record Sheet (S-22)
Vacation Pioneer Report Card (S-201)
Congregation Chart
Would You Like to Understand the Bible? (Bible Study Folder)
What Do You Really Know About God? (Bible Study Folder)
Tracts 1 through 12 (English and Spanish)

Serving with a Spirit of Willingness

1 Jehovah's servants in this time of the end are prophetically described as demonstrating a spirit of willingness. (Ps. 110:3) We know that Jehovah has always been pleased with willing, whole-souled service.—2 Cor. 9:7.

2 But it can be asked: "How could Paul say, 'Woe is me if I did not declare the good news,' and at the same time perform his service willingly?" (1 Cor. 9:16) Paul knew what is stated at Ezekiel 3:18 about the serious responsibility to give warning to the wicked. He knew that Jehovah, out of his love for people, wanted them to be warned. Paul certainly had a love for people, too, did he not? And he willingly accepted Jehovah's viewpoint with regard to preaching the good news to the world of sinful mankind. Furthermore, as shown at 1 Corinthians 9:17, he "willingly" carried out this ministry at his own expense.

3 It is encouraging to know that so many of our brothers have willingly arranged their affairs to serve as temporary and regular pioneers. For the first month of the service year, 17,010 were able to serve as regular pioneers; for October, 17,824; and for November, 18,687. Commendably over 30,000 served as temporary pioneers in September. Are these figures mentioned to make you feel under "compulsion" in some way to serve as a pioneer even if your circumstances do not permit you to do so? No, but, rather, as an encouragement, to show what others have been able to do to enlarge their contribution in the work of Kingdom-preaching and disciple-making. It is appreciated that many have a family and other responsibilities that must be cared for and that may for the present prevent them from serving as temporary or regular pioneers. (Gal. 6:4; 1 Tim. 5:8) Isn't it encouraging, though, to know that so many of our brothers have been able to enlarge their privileges of service? Can you?

4 Our being motivated by the same "word of God" causes us to think of ways that we can enlarge our field service privileges. (Heb. 4:12) Younger ones may be able to serve as temporary pioneers during vacation periods from school. Family heads may be able to get time off from work or use evenings and weekends to serve as temporary pioneers. Such would require adjustments in their normal schedule, as can be appreciated. In some families it may be possible to help other family members to serve as temporary pioneers during the month of April. When elders and ministerial servants are able to take the lead in temporary or regular pioneer service, the entire congregation is benefited.

5 Some have been able to use temporary pioneer service as a stepping-stone to regular pioneer service. If you will be serving as a temporary pioneer for consecutive months, endeavor to put in 100 hours each month. (*Organization* book, p. 141) This will be helpful in determining if you are able to reach the hour requirement set for regular pioneers.

6 During April many who are studying will have progressed to the point that they can be invited to share in the field ministry for the first time. Possibly you will be asked by the elders lovingly to assist such new ones. Where it will be advantageous, the elders can arrange for meetings for field service throughout each week in April to help all in the congregation to have a full share in the field ministry. Arrangements can also be made for experienced publishers to work along with others to give encouragement, having in mind the principle set out at Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10.

7 As we continue 'receiving' in such a large way from the abundance of spiritual food provided through Jehovah's organization, we feel moved to share such good things with others, don't we? (2 Pet. 1:8) From our own personal experience we have found that giving willingly brings us great joy, just as Jesus said would be the case.—Acts 20:35.

NOVEMBER SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bl.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	651	147.6	66.0	5.8	145.4
Pios.	18,687	94.8	35.7	3.1	95.5
Temp. Pios.	9,398	81.9	25.4	1.4	79.2
Pubs.	450,059	10.1	4.6	.5	14.2
TOTAL	478,795				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 5,105

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

Using the Bible

¹ God's Word exerts tremendous power upon its hearers. Look what it has done for us. What it says is more powerful than anything that men can devise or speak. Using the Bible in our field ministry will work wonderfully to draw right-hearted ones to God, resulting in salvation to those disposed to obey Jehovah's voice. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17) Are we using the Bible in our witness work as we go from house to house with the monthly offer and when we make return visits? Why the question? Reports from many parts of the country indicate that some publishers are not using the Bible as much as they were in the past.

² To use the Bible in giving a presentation does require preparation on our part. Are we taking time to prepare our presentation so we can effectively use the Word of God in the field ministry?

³ When we call, how do householders view us? During the course of a day, through the news media and personal contacts, they hear expressions of the viewpoints, opinions and attitudes of other persons. On what authority do these expressions rest? If we are using the Bible, reading directly from it whenever possible, the householder can readily appreciate that our expressions have as their basis the supreme source of authority, Jehovah God himself. (John 17:3) Because of our dependence upon the Word of God, many of those we call upon will come to appreciate that we are ministers of God.

⁴ Have not many of us, when witnessing to friends, relatives, neighbors and others, heard expressions regarding our use of the Bible, such as: 'You people really know your Bible'; 'I wish I could make use of the Bible as you do,' etc.? We are pleased to hear such comments.

⁵ The response of householders varies. If it becomes apparent that the householder will not give attention to our full Scriptural presentation, try to direct his attention to a single scripture. One could say: 'I would very much appreciate hearing your thoughts on this one scripture.'

⁶ Not knowing when we may find a person genuinely longing to hear God's Word, let's be prepared to use the Bible, endeavoring to give the full Scriptural presentation at every opportunity, and, when that it not possible, presenting a single scripture.—Ps. 119:162; Luke 11:28.

If Your Address Changes (*Cont'd*)

available, write the Society a letter, giving the new address and the former one. If possible, send the address change four to six weeks before making a move. Doing so will help to ensure regular delivery of magazines and will assist toward saving the Society postage costs for the return of undeliverable magazines. (The Change of Address form, S-49, has been discontinued.)

Distributors' Orders for Magazines: Congregations will continue to use the Distributors' Order form (M-202) for address changes as well as for adjustments in the number of magazines desired. Allow at least one month for changes to become effective.

Handbill Orders: Unless you specifically request otherwise on the Handbill Order, your handbill orders will be sent to the Distributors' Order mailing address.

Permanent Address for Literature Orders: Notify the Society whenever the permanent address for literature orders should be changed. Please do this in a letter accompanying your Literature Order Blank.

Permanent Mailing Address for Congregation Correspondence: If it becomes necessary to make a change in the permanent address for mailing correspondence, the body of elders can select a dependable person who plans to continue living where he now is, one who will see that the congregation's mail is immediately given to the presiding overseer. This address need not be changed when a new presiding overseer begins to serve.

Some congregations have used one address for all mail *and* literature supplies from the Society. If this is the case with your congregation, it should be mentioned when notifying us of any change so that all of our address files will be properly adjusted.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ For the first three months of 1974 service year Mexico reports 6,051 baptized—84 percent of the total for last year. 7167 all 1973

◆ In December, W. K. Jackson served Sierra Leone as zone overseer. The assembly there was attended by 1,826, with 46 baptized. 152 all yr

◆ Liberia, with 849 publishers, had 2,225 at their assembly, with 80 baptized.

Question Box

Bro Rice

- How long should items be retained in the congregation file?

Records dealing with finances are to be kept at least seven years or longer, as required by the statute of limitations in your state. This includes such records as those pertaining to magazine and literature accounts. Records on building a Kingdom Hall, major repairs, and others that may be needed or useful beyond seven years may be kept indefinitely.

After one year, copies of subscription slips, literature and handbill and magazine order forms, temporary pioneer applications and similar items may be destroyed.

Publisher's Record cards should be retained showing at least the last eight years of activity for each publisher. Older cards may be destroyed. Monthly field service report slips, after being tabulated and posted on Publisher's Record cards, do not have to be retained. Monthly field service records and meeting attendance records for the congregation will be kept eight years, or longer if desired.

Letters from the circuit overseer informing the congregation of circuit assemblies, his visit to the congregation, etc., may be discarded after the event that they discuss has passed. Circuit overseers' reports on visits to the congregation and related correspondence will be retained at least eight years.

Material dealing with the appointment of elders, ministerial servants and those serving as regular pioneers will be kept indefinitely.

Printed letters from the Society dealing with special issues of magazines, travel to international assemblies, etc., can be disposed of after the special activity or assembly that they discuss has passed. It would be well to keep indefinitely letters of instruction, such as: How to Handle Subscriptions Properly (S-11), Instructions for Congregation Accounting (S-27), Public Meeting Talk Titles (S-99), How to Request a Territory Adjustment (S-6), Congregation Territory Assignment (S-54), and letters of instruction regarding pioneering, also current public meeting, funeral, and Memorial outlines.

Judicial matters: Confidential correspondence dealing with serious judicial matters should be kept in a safe place, **accessible only to elders.** It should be retained for at least five years from the date a case is handled to its completion, or longer if the elders deem it advisable in certain cases.

We realize that the above does not cover every item or piece of correspondence, but the general guidelines will be of help to the elders with the file.

★ **Be a Temporary Pioneer in April.** ★

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MARCH 1974 "Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18. VOL. XVII NO. 3

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

During the past couple of weeks, we at Bethel have enjoyed some delightful reports about the final "Divine Victory" assemblies.

Despite the world's mounting problems, Jehovah's people were able to assemble in peace and without serious difficulty.

Brother Suiter was at one of the largest assemblies in Africa —at Lagos, Nigeria, where 65,279 gathered in the National Stadium to hear the public lecture. The largest of all the "Divine Victory" assemblies, however, was in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, where the attendance reached 107,442.

Although Brothers Henschel and Suiter were unable to get to the assembly in South Africa due to circumstances beyond their control, happily brothers on two chartered planes from Europe were delighted to get there. As required by law, separate assemblies were held in Johannesburg for the three main racial groups. But for the final session it was possible to move to the Rand Stadium, where segregation laws do not apply. A crowd of 33,408 packed the stadium. "It was indeed a beautiful sight for us in South Africa," observed an eyewitness, "to see our African, Colored and European brothers all associated together in worship of Jehovah."

Brother Knorr reported on all the South American assemblies, with fascinating details. In the ten lands visited, the Kingdom work is moving ahead marvelously with 239,000 attending and a grand total of 12,453 baptized. At São Paulo, Brazil, a huge sports stadium was packed during the assembly even though the brothers had to stand for some sessions because of heavy rain. The public meeting attendance there was 94,586.

Our brothers there are working hard. May all of us, too, continue to aid others to get a firm hold on the real life while there is yet time.

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Get a Firm Hold on the Real Life

525,007 Report Share in Field Ministry!

[1] In rapidly increasing numbers, people are finding the real reason for life. They are learning that when they give of themselves in doing God's will, there is genuine satisfaction. (Rev. 4:11) As a result, during December thousands more joined with us in the field ministry. In fact, the 525,007 who reported included 103,112 more than had shared just one year earlier here in the U.S. What a thrill to see such a marvelous increase in the number of praisers of Jehovah!

[2] Putting forth more than the usual effort, we all had a part in distributing the 46,018,935 copies of *Kingdom News* No. 17 that were put into the hands of the public. During the month, the number of regular pioneers moved up to a new peak, and 15,734 others put forth special effort as temporary pioneers. All together, the report showed that over 3,600,000 more hours were devoted to preaching the good news than for the same month a year ago. What a grand witness was given!

[3] Now we need to take practical steps to keep on in this right course, despite the problems and pressures associated with the breakdown of this present system. To do that we need to lean heavily on Jehovah for his spirit. How do we get more of this invisible force that gives proper direction to our actions and speech?—Eph. 5:18.

[4] If we build our lives around spiritual things, such as prayer, personal study and meditation, we are headed in the right direction. If we cultivate a desire to be present at the meetings, we are truly pursuing our goal. Further, if we develop a desire to be in association with spiritually minded people, surely this sort of spiritual influence will greatly help us to get a firm hold on the real life. —1 Cor. 2:13; 1 Tim. 6:17-19.

[5] During March, is it possible for us to lean even more heavily on Jehovah? If we do this, marvelous benefits will flow to us daily. We will be able to harness our thoughts more effectively to spiritual matters. (1 John 5:14; Prov. 15:28) And when we think about the spiritual events taking place in March, our hearts should move us to share in them as fully as possible. For example, we are in the third month of the *Watchtower* campaign and every day we can make, or take advantage of, marvelous opportunities to publicize Jehovah's name. In addition to regular house-to-house calls and return visits, have you tried obtaining subscriptions through informal witnessing? You may be pleasantly surprised at your success in this field of witnessing.

[6] Study on our part helps us to develop an even more prayerful attitude and a finer relationship with Jehovah. As we increase our knowledge and feel even closer to Jehovah God and Christ Jesus, unquestionably this will be a powerful aid in overcoming any obstacles we might experience in connection with our worship and in living our lives even as Jesus lived his life.—Mark 9:23.

[7] Moreover, as the upbuilding information that we constantly receive sinks deeply into our hearts, surely we will be motivated to share as fully as possible in the field ministry.—Luke 6:45.

[8] Undoubtedly one of the high points during March will be the special public talk on March 31, "Surviving on the Victorious Side at Har–Magedon." Surely this will be a rewarding occasion for all of us. May Jehovah bless us as we continue to get a firm hold on the real life and aid others to do the same.

★ Getting a Firm Hold on the Real Life. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING MARCH 10

12 min: Song 1. Introduction, text, comments and Theocratic News. Also, include accounts report.

15 min: "Get a Firm Hold on the Real Life." Questions and answers.

23 min: How Real Is Jehovah to You? Develop by questions and answers, with brief opening and concluding remarks by chairman: Do you feel close to Jehovah? As close as you do to a very dear relative or friend? even closer? We should strive to develop our relationship with our God by drawing closer to him each day. If Jehovah is real to us, then even though we may be in dire straits we can maintain integrity by fully relying on him.—Ps 86:7.

Jehovah is real to those who base their faith on accurate knowledge. (Heb. 11:1, 2, 6; Rom. 1:20; John 4:24) Jehovah is real to those who know his qualities. Review page 266 of "Make Sure." We draw close to Jehovah when we imitate his qualities. (Eph. 4:32–5:1) This requires a knowledge of His Word. (John 17:3; Prov. 2:1-6; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17) Jehovah is real to those who experience his dealings with them. (Heb. 11:17-38) Regular communication with Jehovah through prayer will draw us closer to him as we thoughtfully observe the way he answers our prayers and blesses our efforts in his service. (Ps. 65:2; Phil. 4:6, 7) We will be blessed as we cultivate the habit of relying fully on Jehovah. (Phil. 4:13) Then, as we work with him in his service, we can meditate on his goodness manifest in so many ways. (1 Thess. 5:17, 18; Eph. 5:20; 1 Pet. 4:7) By our obeying his commands and by daily meditating on his ways, Jehovah will be real to us. (Ps. 37:30, 31; 1:1-3)

10 min: Concluding comments. Include experiences on getting subscriptions. How has congregation done so far? Offer suggestions to build support for subscription activity. Encourage all to study Chapter 7 in "Peace and Security" book for next week's part. Be sure to bring book to meeting. Song 24.

WEEK STARTING MARCH 17

12 min: Song 2. Introduction, text, comments and Branch Letter.

15 min: Proof We Are Living in the "Last Days." All in congregation should bring their copies of the "Peace and Security" book with them for consideration of the material in Chapter 7. Chairman is to highlight four points listed in paragraph 4, then quickly cover information on point 1 in paragraphs 5-12. Chairman will propound appropriate questions on point 2, as developed in paragraphs 13-27, giving special attention to information on pages 82 and 83. Regarding point 3, apply Matthew 24:34. Also, ask study question on paragraph 29. What is the final signal, referred to in point 4? (Pars. 30, 31; 1 Thess. 5:2, 3; Luke 21:34, 35)

20 min: Satanic Pressure on Family Ties—Test of Integrity. Audience discussion. Relate selected experiences from "1974 Yearbook" as time permits.

(1) When the Devil tried to break Job's integrity, after destroying his property, what attack did he use next? (Job 1:18, 19) (2) Has he done anything like that in our day? (yb pp. 186-190, 119-121, 123) (Note: 860 known cases of children being taken from parents in Germany; yb p. 125) (3) What can parents do now to prepare their children so that they will be able to stand firm under such trials? (yb p. 187, par. 3; p. 188, par. 5; p. 125, par. 1) What may happen when children are not so prepared? (yb p. 170, par. 4) (4) How has the Devil used the natural affection that one has for one's own marriage mate in an effort to break a person down? (yb p. 183, par. 3; pp. 125, 126, 185, 186) (5) What can marriage mates do to help each other to stand firm in the face of such trials? (yb pp. 120, 121; p. 186, par. 2) (6) To endure such trials, how must we feel about our relationship with Jehovah? (Luke 10:27; Job 2:10) What conviction must we have as to God's ability to reward those who prove faithful? (Heb. 11:6; Rom. 8:38, 39; yb p. 180, par. 4) We must mentally prepare ourselves so that if need be we too can encourage our loved ones to faithfulness in the face of death. We must not be found ignorant of Satan's designs.—2 Cor. 2:11.

13 min: Concluding comments. Include material in Question Box. Also, ascertain if any children in congregation have had good experiences in field ministry or otherwise. If so, interview several of them. Song 8.

WEEK STARTING MARCH 24

8 min: Song 20. Introduction, text and comments.

12 min: Informal Witnessing. Talk based on "Presenting the Good News —Informally." In introduction ask how many came into truth through informal witnessing. Demonstrate points in paragraph 3. Entertain experiences.

15 min: "Showing Intense Love for One Another." Question-and-answer coverage. Arrange several realistic demonstrations.

15 min: Maintaining Spiritual Strength in Prison. Audience discussion. Relate selected experiences from "1974 Yearbook" as time permits.

(1) Does one's ability to stand firm under intense persecution depend on physical health, or what? (yb p. 176, par. 3; p. 207, par. 3) (2) What are the things that make us spiritually strong? (Draw from audience: Prayer. Study of God's Word. Association with brothers. Preaching.) (yb p. 176, par. 4; p. 210, par. 2; pp. 170, 171) (3) How have our brothers availed themselves of the privilege of prayer when in prison? (w63 p. 439; w65 p. 763; yb p. 185, par. 2) (4) Where can we obtain literature for study when in prison or in a concentration camp? (yb pp. 191-194, p. 198, par. 5, to p. 199, par. 3) (5) How can a person fulfill this need to study God's Word if no literature is available? (w65 pp. 761, 762; yb p. 191, par. 4; p. 164, par. 4) (6) How has Jehovah filled the need of imprisoned brothers for association with fellow Christians? (yb pp. 193, 194; p. 183, par. 2) (7) In what ways is it possible for a brother or a sister in prison to preach to others? (yb pp. 128, 129, 190, 191) Our brothers in the concentration camps in Nazi Germany continually drew on the 124th Psalm. Read in conclusion.

10 min: Concluding comments. Include some thoughts on preparing new ones for field ministry during April. What is being done to prepare them? Discuss local arrangements. Urge all to prepare for next week's part, "Identifying the Modern 'Faithful and Discreet Slave' Class." Read pages 182-187 of "Life Everlasting" and Chapter 17 in "Thousand Years" book and bring both books to meeting next week. Encourage temporary pioneering during April. Song 7.

WEEK STARTING MARCH 31

10 min: Song 18. Introduction, text and comments.

25 min: Identifying the Modern "Faithful and Discreet Slave" Class.

If we are to prove ourselves loyal to Jehovah and his organization in spite of increasing pressures and obstacles to our worship, necessary to cooperate with and serve under direction of "faithful and discreet slave," to whom 'all the Master's belongings' have been entrusted. Thus vital to identify modern "slave" class.

(17 min.) Chairman to read Matthew 24:45-47. Ask audience to identify that "slave" today. Make sure following points are covered: (1) Noteworthy that Matthew 24:46 shows "slave" found providing food upon Master's return. Explain. (ka pp. 342-347) (2) Historical evidence clear that at time of Christ's second coming, in 1914, only one organization was feeding people spiritual food "at the proper time" and had its "identifying marks." (w62, pp. 760, 761) (3) Scriptural credentials of "slave" strong. (w60, pp. 437, 438) (4) "Slave" not one person, but all the members of spirit-begotten ones on earth as class at any given time. (ka pp. 340, 341; li p. 183) "Slave" class provides food for individual members of anointed, the "domestics." (li pp. 183-185) (5) Slave now enjoys new position; appointed over all Christ's earthly belongings (Matt. 24:47), all the spiritual things that belong to him here on earth in connection with his established heavenly kingdom. (ka pp. 353-357) (6) As in first century, certain members of slave class selected to be governing body, which, directed by holy spirit, makes appointments of overseers and ministerial servants. (Acts 14:23; w71, pp. 755-762)

(8 min.) Get observations of audience on following points: How can we show we are deeply convinced that this is Jehovah's organization and that no man, but Christ Jesus, is the appointed Head of it? How can we daily work with "slave" class, Christ's "brothers," yet on earth, loyally and willingly sharing in giving final witness? In what ways do we see need of Jehovah's organization and wisdom of cooperating with it and its appointed elders and ministerial servants?

10 min: "Getting Ready for the Memorial." Questions and answers.

15 min: Concluding comments. Build up appreciation and enthusiasm for the Memorial on Sunday. Review local arrangements and encourage all to support them fully for outstanding activity. Song 47.

WEEK STARTING APRIL 7

(Please make up your own service meeting.)

Suggestions: If you like, you may use one or more of the following suggestions: Offer thoughts on gift subscriptions, following through on all subscription promises, developing interest cultivated through the Memorial, and so forth.

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Showing Intense Love for One Another

1 Human imperfections and faults we all have. Working as closely as we do in the Christian congregation, there are occasions when problems come up and perhaps even get magnified out of proportion. But as we all know, one of the hallmarks of Christianity is *agápe* or principled love. What can we do individually and collectively to perfect this most important quality in our lives? Obviously we all want to make a contribution to the unity and harmony of the Christian congregation with which we serve. In this connection it may be helpful to review some of the circumstances with which some are confronted from time to time.

2 For example, you may be a sister who has been upset because an elder has counseled your son due to his conduct at the Kingdom Hall. Perhaps you feel inclined to find fault with his counsel or to reply with angry words against the brother. But would it not be good to remember that love "does not become provoked" and that "love is long-suffering and kind"? If we appreciate that our older brothers are interested in us and in our families and have no reason unduly to inject themselves into our family affairs, is it not possible for us to accept counsel in the spirit in which it is given? (Prov. 15:31; Ps. 141:5) It is true, of course, that the elders usually call these things to the attention of parents first, making recommendations to the parents and letting them handle the matter. However, if such things persist, such as misbehaving at the Kingdom Hall, then elders may choose to reason with both parents and child, giving appropriate counsel and help. We do have to maintain a certain decorum at the Kingdom Hall.

3 You may be one who feels that an elder should be a better speaker or a better organizer. Additionally, he may have little mannerisms that disturb you. Frankly, you may wonder about his qualifications. Perhaps you do not enjoy his talks from the platform and secretly resent his counsel to the congregation. In a situation like this, would it not be good to reflect on the fact that "love is not jealous" and that it "bears all things"? Perhaps you are assessing this brother from your own viewpoint or from a human standard; whereas, the qualifications for elders and ministerial servants are set forth in God's Word. Moreover, love is not envious of good things coming to others, but rejoices in seeing a fellowman receive a position of greater responsibility. Is it not better to view this brother from his spiritual qualifications, overlooking his human imperfections and cooperating with him? (Heb. 13:7, 17) Obviously, the loving thing would be not to listen with a critical ear, but to profit from the counsel and instruction he gives, since what is really important is what comes from God's Word, not who says it.

4 Finally, elders themselves need to be discreet, recognizing that of the one to whom much has been given, more is demanded. (Luke 12:48) Surely it would be inappropriate for elders to engage in vulgar speech or to present an image of accomplishing things in their own might, perhaps even bragging of their accomplishments, for love "does not behave indecently" and love "does not brag, does not get puffed up." In giving counsel, in delivering talks, in shepherding and in teaching, yes, in all things, it is the responsibility of elders to set a loving, humble example, recognizing that they too have things to learn and that others also have good ideas. How important it is for all of us daily to demonstrate intense love toward one another. —Jer. 9:24; 1 Cor. 1:31; 13:4-7.

DECEMBER SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	654	147.8	54.7	5.3	114.6
Pios.	18,706	97.3	33.6	3.0	76.1
Temp. Pios.	15,734	77.4	20.5	1.2	56.9
Pubs.	489,913	12.5	4.0	.5	10.3
TOTAL	525,007				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 5,644

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

Announcements

◆ Literature offer for May: *God's Kingdom of a Thousand Years Has Approached,* with a booklet, on a contribution of 50c. June: *New World Translation,* along with *True Peace and Security* book, on contribution of $1.25.

◆ When corresponding with the Society for any reason, pioneers should always use their name exactly as it appears on their Pioneer Identification and Assignment card.

◆ Many congregation reports postmarked after the tenth of the month are being received. Please submit the report each month *no later than the sixth.* (*Organization* book, p. 75, par. 1)

◆ Regular pioneers desiring to serve as temporary special pioneers, devoting a minimum of 150 hours a month to field service in isolated territory for two or three months during the summer, may write for further information. Each assignment is organized for a team of two. Before writing to the Society, arrangements should be made for a partner (give partner's name when writing) and a car that is in good condition. Some financial assistance will be provided by the Society.

◆ If your congregation is overstocked with various publications, please review paragraph 10 in the *Watchtower Cost List.*

◆ On Monday, March 4, 1974, there will be no arrangement for tours of the Bethel home and factory because of the graduation of the Gilead class. On Saturday, April 13, the Bethel home and factory will be closed for spring cleaning. So there will be no tours on that day either.

◆ New Publications Available:

Organization for Kingdom-preaching and Disciple-making —Afrikaans
Listening to the Great Teacher —Greek, Yoruba
The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life —Kikamba, Kissi
"This Good News of the Kingdom" —Kikuyu, Maltese, Papiamento, Tongan
When All Nations Collide, Head On, with God —Ibo
Divine Rulership—The Only Hope for All Mankind —Chinese, Efik, Yoruba
Divine Victory—Its Meaning for Distressed Humanity —Chinese

◆ Out of Stock in U.S.A.:

The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life —Arabic, Papiamento
Young's Concordance —English

Getting Ready for the Memorial

1 Truly there are compelling reasons to obey Jesus' command to celebrate the Memorial. Appreciating this in times past, our brothers have assembled, even under the most trying circumstances. One example of this can be seen in the *1974 Yearbook,* pages 143-145. Why have our brothers in Germany and throughout the earth shown such great appreciation for this event? It is not only because we are commanded to keep this occasion, but also because of the spiritual benefits to ourselves and those who join with us.

2 The Memorial is a time for sober reflection on our own course as a Christian. It is a time to meditate on what we have done and what we are going to do with our lives in the future. It is a time to intensify our determination to do Jehovah's will no matter what may come. Above all, it is a time to consider deeply the love of Jehovah in providing the ransom, as well as the love of Jesus, who willingly paid the ransom price so we might have hope. (John 15:13; Phil. 2:7, 8) How encouraging, how motivating it is to reflect on this marvelous provision!—1 John 4:11.

3 Good planning, both individually and congregationally, will contribute toward all present getting the most benefit from the Memorial this year. The body of elders will be meeting early in March. During this meeting it would be good to make prepara-

(*Continued on page 4, col. 1*)

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

Informally

1 Many now faithfully serving Jehovah first learned of his purposes through informal witnessing. You may know of persons who have successfully aided family members into the truth. Others have thoughtfully spoken to friends, business acquaintances, fellow workers, teachers, schoolmates, visitors, neighbors, fellow travelers, and so on, thereby planting seeds of truth that took root in fine soil.—Luke 8:15.

2 A major advantage of informal witnessing is the congenial, relaxed atmosphere in which it can be done. Much can be accomplished during a friendly discussion under favorable circumstances. In fact, it is possible in this way to reach persons who may never have heard the good news at their doors. Even a brief contact, such as that made on a bus, a train, an airplane, or in a waiting room, may stimulate a person's interest to the point where the next Witness who calls will get a hearing ear.—Prov. 15:7; Eccl. 11:6.

3 Some find it best when witnessing informally to make brief statements that will arouse a person's curiosity and that may cause the person to ask questions about our message and work. Or, we may ask questions to stimulate a person's thinking, and then show the Bible's answer. As always, there is a need to be discreet and tactful. We should avoid wasting time with those not sincerely interested.—Matt. 7:6.

4 We can casually mention to workmates or persons we meet every day what we have learned at meetings, at assemblies, in personal study, and so forth. Over a period of time these seeds of truth may take root and grow, even if the person is indifferent at first.

5 When witnessing informally to persons we have never met before, some find it helpful to engage in casual conversation with the individual for a few minutes, initially, to establish a rapport, or friendly spirit of communication. This can then be used as a "platform" from which to build a friendly discussion of God's Word.

6 To be successful it is good to plan ahead for your informal witnessing by having with you one or more small books, such as *Truth* or *Peace and Security,* also magazines or booklets. In that way you have something to leave with the person to read, now that you have stimulated his interest.

7 As world conditions worsen, producing more and more anxiety among mankind, we have great joy in comforting those who are "sighing and groaning." (Ezek. 9:4) Too, as we get closer to the "great tribulation," informal witnessing may become one of the main preaching methods at our disposal. Why not develop ability in this work now?

Getting Ready for Memorial (*Cont'd*) tions for additional attendants, chairs, the emblems, proper ventilation and appropriate announcements. Since the Memorial will be the only meeting that day, you may want to have the *Watchtower* study at another time during the week. (Of course, all Memorial celebrations should begin after 7:00 p.m., daylight saving time.) Arrangements can be made for field service that Sunday, with special emphasis on inviting and bringing interested persons to the Memorial. With a special effort on the part of everyone we should have a fine attendance indeed.

4 Jehovah's witnesses as a group are truly the happiest, most friendly people on earth. Yet on this special occasion it is well to plan in advance so that new ones in attendance feel so welcome that they will want to attend our meetings *regularly*. All of us can give more than the usual attention to welcoming newcomers, since some could easily be overlooked when so many are present. Why not plan to greet as many new ones as possible, engaging them in friendly conversation? If no one is studying with them, perhaps a study could be arranged. Such kindness may be instrumental in aiding more to make fine spiritual progress in the coming months.

5 May Jehovah's rich blessings be upon our efforts individually and congregationally to get ready for the Memorial.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ The West Congregation of Albuquerque, New Mexico, started 18 studies as a result of distribution of Kingdom News No. 16, and all 18 studies continue as of this date.

◆ For the first time Hong Kong exceeded 300 publishers, with 301 reporting in December. This was their sixth peak in a row. Congregation publishers averaged 18.6 hours, 21.4 magazines, 7.6 return visits and .9 studies.

◆ Indonesia reports their seventh successive peak, with 3,297 publishers in December.

◆ Five-day "Divine Victory" Assembly held in Nairobi, Kenya, with 209 baptized and 4,588 in attendance. Visitors from U.S., Canada, Australia, Europe and other parts of Africa. Excellent local publicity in papers and on TV.

◆ Mauritius passed the 300 mark for the first time, with 306 publishers reporting in December.

◆ Malaysia reports that their December activity was the best ever, with new peaks in almost every feature of service. The number of publishers (296) represented a 17-percent increase.

◆ For the first time Israel reports 200 publishers. Special month of activity included "Divine Victory" Assembly, December 6-8, and distribution of Kingdom News No. 16 the last ten days of the month.

◆ Newfoundland reports 35 congregations and 1,000 publishers for the first time in history.

◆ By the end of December, the Philippines reported 5,553 baptized thus far this service year—up 2,393 from same time last year.

Question Box

● What publications should one read before baptism?

Page 18 of the "Organization" book states that one contemplating baptism will be greatly aided by personally reading the recent publications of the Society in addition to the book he is currently studying. Please observe that no publications are named. It is left up to the local elders to recommend what they believe will be of most help to the individual. Some, in addition to studying the "Truth" book, would be benefited most by absorbing the principles of Christian living set out in the "Peace and Security" book. A person who has been plagued with doubts about the authenticity of the Bible would be benefited by the "Word of God" book. In some cases the elders might recommend the 'Impossible to Lie' or the "Life Everlasting" book. It is not a matter of setting out as required reading so many books, but of helping individuals to grow spiritually. That is why this same page in the "Organization" book says: "The elders of the congregation with which you are associated will gladly make recommendations to you of material that will be most helpful."

★ Aid Interested Persons to Attend the Memorial. ★

Frank Jr.

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
APRIL 1974 "Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18. VOL. XVII NO. 4

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

Jehovah is richly blessing his people as he promised he would. A veritable "cloud" of people is flocking to the place of safety. (Isa. 60:8) As you know, in the United States, 525,007 publishers were in the field service in December, when *Kingdom News* No. 17 was distributed. And the cold month of January saw 489,496 reporting—our second-highest peak.

With similar increases in other lands, there is a tremendous demand for Bibles and books. To supply your needs the Brooklyn factory has produced over 18,000,000 books this service year, 44 percent more than it did during the same months last year. Fifteen rotary presses are busy printing Bibles alone! But orders are flooding in faster than we can fill them. During the same time, distributors' copies of the magazines for the U.S. have totaled 95,727,068—up 17 percent.

That is why, on February 14, Brother Knorr wrote to all congregations in the United States about Bethel service. We are confident that Jehovah's spirit will prompt many of you to rise to the occasion. Are you a brother, born in 1955 or earlier, baptized for at least one year? Are you single and healthy? Are you free and willing to use your time and energies to help in meeting these needs of our brothers world-wide?

With response from you brothers who qualify, the demand can be met. As an example: The Brooklyn factory now keeps ten bindery "lines" going daily. Here the books are taken through their final stages and packed. It is there that help is especially needed. Half of these lines are now also running a night shift. You brothers coming in could release experienced brothers to volunteer for the night shift, thus keeping all the bindery equipment busy day and night. In this way we could produce an additional three quarters of a million books a month. Publishers around the world would be grateful to get them. And think what an expanded witness could thus be given!

Can you volunteer? If so, speak to the elders of your congregation, and write the Society for an application today.

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Prove Whose Side You Support

Kingdom News No. 18 Stresses the Issue

1 How long have you been serving Jehovah? A few of us may say, "More than thirty years," others, "Fifteen years." But did you realize that fully one third of Jehovah's witnesses in the United States —about 175,000—would say, "Less than five years"?

2 Is it not a thrill to see so many taking their stand on Jehovah's side? And no matter how long we have been supporting God's government, are we not delighted to have ceased being vessels for Satan's use and to have become vessels useful to our rightful owner, Jehovah God? —2 Tim. 2:21.

3 What helped you to take your stand on Jehovah's side so as to be useful to Him? It was getting an understanding of the Bible, was it not? Often the starting point is reading *The Watchtower*. As you continued to read *The Watchtower,* you appreciated it more and more. Has that appreciation been moving you to be enthusiastic about offering *Watchtower* subscriptions to others?

4 Perhaps, though, despite your efforts, you have not placed even one subscription during the campaign. Have you thought about sending a gift subscription?

5 In Germany a woman and her daughter came to the *Watchtower* study for the first time. It was learned that a relative had sent the mother a gift subscription, and by reading the magazines she learned that she had only a short time left to become acquainted with the truth. She came to the Kingdom Hall to see if there was still the possibility of having a Bible study.

6 Do you have a relative, acquaintance or work associate that you feel would benefit from having a *Watchtower* subscription? If so, why not subscribe for that person during April? When submitting a gift subscription, be sure to mark "Gift" on the upper right-hand corner of the subscription slip, and print your name clearly on the bottom of the slip as the giver.

7 As you know, we have some fine special issues of the magazines for distribution in April. No doubt you are already making good use of some of them. Have you considered that persons with whom you are studying may enjoy the privilege of helping you to distribute the very timely information in these magazines? First, review the requirements for new publishers, as set out on page 129 of the *Organization* book, to be sure that they qualify. Then, why not ask them to go with you in the magazine work? April is a good time to get them started. Then, during May, they will no doubt want to have a part in giving out that exciting new *Kingdom News,* No. 18.

DISTRIBUTION OF KINGDOM NEWS NO. 18

8 The title of the new tract clearly presents the issue facing all mankind today—"Government by God—Are You for It or Against It?" We know what our choice is. We are for God's government both now and forever! This is the agency that will vindicate Jehovah's name, and there is no other government that can satisfy mankind's desire for true peace and security. We know that, and King-

(*Continued on page 3, col. 1*)

★ **Be Vessels for God's Honorable Use.** ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING APRIL 14

12 min: Song 51. Introduction, with very brief comments on text. Discuss how to offer special "Watchtower" and "Awake!" in field ministry.

3 min: Accounts report, if not previously presented.

15 min: "Prove Whose Side You Support." Question-and-answer coverage of paragraphs 1-7 of article. Include experiences from audience as to how and when they have obtained subscriptions; especially emphasize the sending of gift subscriptions. Discuss, too, aiding new ones who qualify to share in the field ministry during April. Include comments that are directed to these potential praisers of Jehovah; many of them will be there in the audience.

20 min: Overcoming Efforts to Make Us Compromise. After brief introductory comments, draw audience into discussion, using questions provided. Apportion material carefully so that all the scriptures are considered and so that some experiences are covered from each of the numbered sections.

Invite brief comments on the following scriptures as to what they show that we as Christians are to do and what we should avoid in our contacts with the world. (1) Romans 13:1, 7; Acts 5:29; (2) 1 Peter 2:17, compare it with Acts 12:21-23 and Matthew 4:10; (3) John 6:15; James 4:4; Revelation 14:9, 10, 12; (4) Isaiah 2:4 and Matthew 22:39.

Have prepared publishers relate the following "1974 Yearbook" experiences, taking some from each section as time permits. Ask audience to point out how the scriptures already discussed show the Christian course to follow under such circumstances: (1) "yb," p. 133, pars. 2-4; p. 136, par. 4 to 137, par. 1; (2) "yb," p. 118, par. 1; (3) "yb," p. 115, par. 4 to p. 117, par. 2; (4) "yb," p. 187, par. 3; p. 189, par. 4; p. 204, par. 3.

Jehovah rightly requires exclusive devotion; we cannot compromise his righteous principles and still serve him. He will help us to be faithful if that is what truly is in our hearts. So determined were brothers in Germany to obey Jehovah that even when in concentration camps they openly witnessed despite threats of opposers. —"yb," p. 203, pars. 1, 2.

10 min: Concluding comments. Earnestly discuss what the Branch Letter says about the need for workers at Bethel. In preparation for the meeting next week, encourage all to study carefully the March 1, 1974, "Watchtower" article on prayer. Song 62.

WEEK STARTING APRIL 21

12 min: Song 9. Introduction, text and comments. You might use a family setting, and include discussion of recent items from "Watching the World" in "Awake!", also appropriate Announcements.

15 min: Distribution of Kingdom News No. 18.

(10 min.) Briefly review with audience contents of Kingdom News No. 18. (Distribute sample copies before meeting.) Then draw out comments from the audience as to why this message is such an important one. (In advance, provide several mature publishers with copies of the tract, and ask them to have brief comments ready as to the importance of the message.)

(5 min.) Discuss, with audience participation, paragraphs 8-12 of the article "Prove Whose Side You Support." Encourage united effort on the part of the congregation in tract distribution on May 4 and 5.

20 min: "What Is the Quality of Your Prayers?" Discussion with audience, based on article in the March 1, 1974, "Watchtower." Develop main ideas so they will be remembered. Invite audience to read and comment on selected scriptures.

13 min: Concluding comments. From Society's letter of March 1 "To All Field Overseers," share experiences about results from Kingdom News distribution. Analyze with the congregation Paul's attitude toward the preaching of the good news as expressed at 1 Corinthians 9:16. Song 10.

WEEK STARTING APRIL 28

15 min: Song 65. Introduction, text and comments. Include information on "District Assembly Plans," giving special attention to material that is pertinent to the congregation; some material may not apply locally. Enthusiastically encourage the brothers to attend the assembly.

25 min: If Brothers Prove False. After brief introductory remarks, draw remaining points from audience with questions. Have some publishers prepared to relate experiences from "1974 Yearbook."

Vital that we have deep appreciation for our brothers. Proper view will help when times are difficult. Jesus said, "All you are brothers." He said genuine Christians would manifest genuine love for one another. (Matt. 23:8; John 13:35) Ask audience: (1) Though a brother may speak unkindly or not agree with us on some matter, why should we not hastily view him as an enemy? (Rom. 3:23; Jas. 2:13; "yb," pp. 174, 175) (2) Some, out of weakness, may fail to maintain integrity under severe pressure. Does this necessarily mean that such ones are our enemies? (Matt. 26:69-75; Gal. 6:1; "yb," p. 178, par. 3; p. 168, par. 2) (3) What will identify one who professes to be a brother as false to that claim? (Matt. 26:14-16, 48, 49; Jude 4, 8; 2 Pet. 2:1) (4) During time of intense persecution, how has Satan used some who professed to be Christian brothers? ("yb," pp. 53, 148, 178, 179) (5) Why might the enemy want to give us the impression that some of our brothers had betrayed us? So how should we view charges heard from such a source? ("yb," p. 231; Ps. 144:11) (6) If a brother does prove false, how should we view our other brothers? (1 Pet. 1:22; 1 John 4:7, 20, 21) (7) How can we guard ourselves so that we do not betray our brothers? —Prov. 22:19; Matt. 10:28; Acts 20:24; "yb," p. 210, par. 2; p. 175, par. 4 to p. 176, par. 2.

Our brotherhood is a gift from Jehovah. We love our brothers. (1 John 3:14) Do not let the enemy destroy your confidence in your faithful brothers. As to God's faithful people, we reflect Paul's spirit as expressed at 2 Thessalonians 1:3.

10 min: Reporting Our Field Service. Distribute a Publisher's Field Service Report slip and a Bible Study Report slip to each one in attendance. Remind them that this is the time to turn in their reports for the month. Discuss problems that have been observed locally in the use of these report slips. (For example, even literature that is left at a not-at-home is to be counted; save fractions of hours until there is a full hour to report; include time used in informal witnessing; what to count as a return visit; how to report home Bible studies.) Comment briefly on why we turn in reports.

10 min: Concluding comments. Build up enthusiasm for the distribution of Kingdom News No. 18. Encourage all to participate early; remind them that the work is to be completed by May 12. If any realize that they will be unable to distribute their complete allotment, request that they return these as early as possible so that others will have opportunity to use them during the following week. Song 116.

WEEK STARTING MAY 5

8 min: Song 12. Introduction, text and comments. Make use of appropriate Theocratic News items to show joy in serving Jehovah shared by ever-increasing number of brothers world wide.

10 min: "What Is the Bible's View?" There is a wealth of material in "Awake!" articles bearing this heading. Each one provides a concise treatment of a Bible subject that may be just what is needed to reach someone you have contacted in field ministry, someone you work with, go to school with, a relative or a neighbor. List subjects covered in recent months. Demonstrate father talking with son on challenge son faces in school on loose morals. Cover material in January 22, 1974, "Awake!" on the subject "Fornication—Why Not?" In handling this, chairman can emphasize that this material can be very beneficial to parents who want to help their children to have the Bible's view on matters.

15 min: Offering the Book "God's Kingdom of a Thousand Years Has Approached."

Discuss use of the Bible in house-to-house ministry. In distributing tracts and in placing magazines we use brief presentations. These activities serve a good purpose. Also beneficial to endeavor to draw people into conversation, to discuss points from the Bible. Many new publishers may never have done this; it is not difficult; we encourage you to learn.

Several publishers on platform discuss and demonstrate how to draw householder into conversation, and then read just one or two verses from the Bible. (Keep it simple.) Offer "God's Kingdom of a Thousand Years Has Approached." (Use ideas from October 1973 "Kingdom Ministry.")

15 min: "Presenting the Good News —Developing Interest on Return Visits." Talk on material, including some audience participation, and handled possibly by Bible study overseer.

12 min: Concluding comments. Briefly discuss Question Box; enlarge on it if it applies locally. Build up enthusiasm for final weekend of distribution of Kingdom News No. 18. Song 11.

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District Assembly Plans

¹ You are undoubtedly looking forward with eagerness to attending one of the 1974 district assemblies as listed in the February 1, 1974, *Watchtower*. Those shown as tentative are now definite as listed, with the exception of the two assemblies planned for Springfield, Massachusetts, June 27-30 and July 4-7. These have now been replaced by second assemblies at both Utica, New York, and Pawtucket, Rhode Island, on July 4-7.

² In some cases it is necessary to balance the size of the crowd with the seating facilities available by suggesting that certain circuits attend a particular assembly even though another one may be slightly closer. We would like to recommend that, if possible, all of Kansas Circuit 2 attend at Oklahoma City (July 4-7) instead of at Tulsa and that Ohio Circuits 1 and 10 attend at Pittsburgh (July 25-28) instead of at Detroit. Also, we suggest that the circuits in the San Diego-Los Angeles area attend as follows:

July 4-7: San Diego, Calif.: Calif. 1, 2, 3, 4, 16, 20, 28, 30, 31, 33.
July 25-28: Los Angeles, Calif.: Calif. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 21, 24, 25, 32.

³ This year there are a number of cities where two assemblies are being held in succession and so we are recommending that the brothers in the circuits listed here attend during the particular week indicated, to the extent possible, to assure adequate seating for everyone:

June 20-23:
  Laurel, Md.: Md. 1, 2, 3; Va. 4.
  Puyallup, Wash.: Wash. 1, 4-A, 5.
June 21-24 (Friday-Monday):
  St. Petersburg, Fla.: Fla. 5, 9, 10-B.
June 27-30:
  Laurel, Md.: D.C. 1; Md. 4; Pa. 5, 9-A.
  Puyallup, Wash.: Wash. 2, 6, 7-A.
  St. Petersburg, Fla.: Fla. 2, 7.
  Utica, N.Y.: N.H. 1-A; N.Y. 7-B; Vt. 1.
July 4-7:
  Pawtucket, R.I.: Conn. 2; Me. 1; Mass. 1; N.H. 1-B.
  Utica, N.Y.: Mass. 3-A; N.Y. 6, 16-B.
July 11-14:
  Pawtucket, R.I.: Conn. 1; Mass. 2, 3-B, 3-C, 4.
August 1-4:
  Queens, N.Y.: Conn. 3; N.Y. 1, 5, 11, 14, 17.
August 8-11:
  Queens, N.Y.: N.Y. 2, 4, 10, 12, 15; Staten Island.

In all other cases, we recommend that, where possible, you attend the assembly nearest to you.

⁴ ROOMING: In ample time the Society will send a supply of Room Request forms to each congregation, on which will be printed the address of the rooming headquarters for each assembly. Please fill out the form very carefully and mail it directly to the assembly city (*not to the Society*), doing so no earlier than six weeks ahead of the date of the assembly you have selected. If you receive a rooming assignment and later have to change your plans and cannot accept it, please send word (1) to the name and address on your assignment card and (2) to the convention rooming department so that the room may be reassigned.

⁵ VOLUNTEER SERVICE: There is much work to be done at each assembly to care for the needs of our brothers, yet many volunteers make the work light and joyful. Why not plan to volunteer as individuals and family groups? Fill out Volunteer Service applications, giving the completed forms to your presiding overseer for him to sign and forward to the convention city (*not to the Society*). If you later find that you are unable to serve

(*Continued on page 4, col. 1*)

Prove Whose Side You Support (*Cont'd*) *dom News* No. 18 provides a marvelous opportunity to show both Jehovah and fellow humans where we personally stand as to this great issue.

⁹ And think of the fine results that can be expected. Some who have studied the Bible with us may now be moved to take a definite step to show their decision by sharing with us in this special work. Others, who have in the past listened to us, may now be aided to see the urgency of the matter and so may want to start studying or may come to the Kingdom Hall. Surely, then, all of us who love God's government will want to have the fullest share possible in distributing *Kingdom News* No. 18!

¹⁰ Keep in mind the time for this work—it is May 3 through 12. Each congregation will be consigned tracts at the rate of 100 for each publisher who reported field service in December. If more publishers are now sharing in the work, the supplies can be divided up accordingly. Feel a personal responsibility to distribute your share.

¹¹ But what will we say? As when presenting the previous issues of *Kingdom News*, we should be brief. We can simply say: "I'm sharing in distributing an important message. We are leaving one, free, in every home. This is your copy." Or: "I am calling to present you with a message that deals with an issue that is especially vital in our day. It is free. Please read it." It is best to place the tract in the householder's hand as you speak. Also, leave a copy for each household where no one is at home; but the tracts are not meant for general distribution on the streets.

¹² In many ways we can prove that we really do support God's government. May offers a special opportunity to do so. Do not miss out. Share fully in the distribution of *Kingdom News* No. 18.

Announcements

◆ Literature offer for April: One-year subscription for *The Watchtower*, along with three booklets, for $1.50, or subscriptions for both *The Watchtower* and *Awake!*, with six booklets,, for $3.00. May: The book *God's Kingdom of a Thousand Years Has Approached*, with a booklet, on a contribution of 50c. If this book is not available, you may offer any other 50c book. From May 3 through 12 we will distribute *Kingdom News* No. 18. June: *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*, along with the book *True Peace and Security—From What Source?*, for $1.25. July: *True Peace and Security—From What Source?* for 25c.

◆ It is suggested that congregations of 75 or more publishers include in their stock of literature on hand at least two copies of the large-print *New World Translation*, also *Aid to Bible Understanding* and the *Concordance*. Based on your record of the number of these publications that were actually taken from the literature room during the last six months, it would be well to order a six-month supply. If you do it now, they will be available for the publishers for their use in the field ministry during June. A covering remittance should be submitted with your order.

◆ Regular pioneers who were appointed on or before February 1, 1974, will be sent a cafeteria ticket for use at a district assembly during this service year. These will be sent to the presiding overseer along with the monthly statement for May. Pioneers, be sure to bring your cafeteria ticket to the assembly and treat it as cash; no replacements will be available.

◆ It will be a great help to the Society if all publishers and pioneers with congregations will order literature, magazines and subscriptions through the congregation rather than direct from the Society.

◆ Out of Stock in U.S.A.:
The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life —Siamese
Is the Bible Really the Word of God? —Chinese

JANUARY SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	645	149.4	62.3	5.6	154.9
Pios.	19,379	99.7	39.5	3.2	104.9
Temp. Pios.	8,022	82.8	26.7	1.5	85.4
Pubs.	461,450	10.1	4.8	.5	14.3
TOTAL	489,496				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 6,894

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

Developing Interest on Return Visits

1 To develop interest in the truth requires time. Do you schedule sufficient time to make return visits on a regular basis? Many publishers find it beneficial to spend at least half of their field service time in making return visits and conducting Bible studies, thus cultivating interest already found.

2 You might beneficially ask yourself: 'Am I really alert to locate persons who show interest in Jehovah's loving provisions, or do I make return visits only on people who accept literature?' The ones we are looking for are those who sincerely have a love of righteousness, those sighing and crying due to the bad conditions in the world, those searching for the truth. That a person does not take literature, due to personal or religious reasons, does not necessarily mean that he has no interest in the truth and that a warm response to God's loving provisions cannot be cultivated. (Luke 19:3-5) But how can we go about this?

3 Occasional calls may be very helpful in getting to know certain ones in our territory so that we get to know them on a friendly basis, thus opening the way for more serious and regular discussions of the truth. We have to remember that people have reason to be fearful of strangers, so it may be necessary patiently to cultivate both their interest and their confidence. This takes time and continued effort on our part. Sometimes our objective can be accomplished by taking issues of the magazines to them from time to time when there is something that we feel may be of particular interest to them. When there is opportunity, take advantage of the few minutes you may be afforded to talk to them about the truth. Be prepared to discuss a scripture or an article in the current magazine. You may never have a better opportunity to witness to that person, so do not be in too much of a hurry to leave for the next call.

4 When a person does permit us to take time for a good discussion, a variety of approaches may be helpful. Some brothers like to let the householder do much of the talking the first time to find out what is on his mind and what is of interest to him. Just because he brings up wrong ideas, we do not have to refute them at the outset. Remember, our message is the good news of the Kingdom, and this is what we should emphasize. Other matters can be cleared up in time. Our goal is to win hearts, not arguments.

5 Remember, too, that these are not "our sheep," but God's. Often another publisher may be more effective with certain ones than we are, so why not invite that person along on the call?

6 Do not get discouraged when you make a return visit on someone only to have your offer of a home Bible study refused. Even if the call is not as productive as we might like to see it, perhaps it was enough to start the person thinking and reading so that more progress may be made on future calls. We know, of course, that, after we have done all that we can, it is God who makes the interest grow, and we pray for this. (1 Cor. 3:6, 7) However, our work of planting and cultivating includes weeding out those showing no interest, and our return visits will help us to do that.

District Assembly Plans (*Cont'd*)

in your assignment, please advise the volunteer service department at the assembly city of the change.

6 FIELD SERVICE: Starting the weekend prior to each assembly and on until the day before the program begins, there will be a concerted effort made in and around the assembly city to invite the public to attend the entire program. Millions of handbills are being printed for special house-to-house distribution. Publishers living in the assembly cities and nearby will be invited to share. If you plan to travel from out-of-town to an assembly, could you arrange to arrive a day or two early to share in this work? If so, request your rooming accommodations accordingly. And, on arrival at the assembly city, go to the address of the rooming department for territory and handbill supplies.

7 We warmly encourage you to plan now to attend all four days of the 1974 district assembly.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ During January and February, 218,030 new subscriptions were received from the U.S.A. by the office here in Brooklyn; that is up 26 percent over the same months last year.

◆ Other lands report fine success with magazines: With the Chinese New Year holidays the publishers in Hong Kong averaged 65.1 magazines, and regular pioneers 330.8. Germany obtained 7,315 subscriptions, largest number since January 1958.

◆ Philippines reports attendance of 121,121 at ten "Divine Victory" assemblies, with 4,368 baptized.

◆ Baptisms in many lands continue at a higher rate than last year: Argentina has 211 more baptized than for all last year. Nigeria reports 11,010 baptized —more than the total for all the 1973 service year!

◆ Many new publisher peaks were reached in January: Jamaica, with 6,167 publishers, had a 23-percent increase. Nicaragua had 2,441, a 22-percent increase over last year's average. Police opposition in San Marino has stopped and brothers report 38 publishers for the first time. South Africa passed the 25,000 mark for the first time with 25,412. Australia had a 19-percent increase, with 27,943 publishers.

Question Box

● Is there a way to reach prison inmates to witness to them?

Many requests come to the Society each week from prison inmates asking for literature and requesting that someone conduct a Bible study with them. To help such persons, the Society writes the local congregation and asks that the interested person be contacted in the prison. It would be appreciated if prompt attention would be given to these calls. Literature can, in some cases, be given directly to the prisoner by those calling, but in some prisons it is required that the literature be sent directly from the publishing house. Where the prisoner cannot afford a contribution, the congregation or the individual publisher may provide the contribution to cover the cost and ask the Society to send the literature.

In some localities it has been possible, after discussing our Bible educational program with the prison officials or with government officials who have jurisdiction over prison matters, to obtain a permit that will actually allow one to go from cell to cell in the prison to talk with the inmates, leaving literature where possible. Older magazines may be left free with the inmates, if the prison officials permit, and then, as interest is developed, books or subscriptions may be placed and Bible studies started.

If there is a prison in your territory, it is recommended that the congregation arrange for an elder to visit the prison officials to find out what may be required to contact the prisoners and to provide Bible literature for them to read and, if at all possible, to conduct Bible studies with them on either a group or an individual basis.

★ Help Those Who Are Studying to Praise Jehovah in April. ★

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MAY 1974 "Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18. VOL. XVII NO. 5

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

We are very much aware of the rapid growth in the size and number of our congregations. Everywhere, it seems, new Kingdom Halls are being built, and in many cases these soon become overcrowded. It is as foretold: Jehovah is 'speeding up' the ingathering in this time of the end.—Isa. 60:22.

Another evidence of this organizational growth is the recent purchase and remodeling of an old synagogue, with a seating capacity of 1,200, here in New York city. It is the second circuit assembly hall in this city, serving its share of the more than 260 congregations in the metropolitan area.

Global expansion of the Kingdom work in more than 200 countries has created a tremendous demand on the Bethel family for more and more literature. To cope with the demand, Brother Knorr wrote you in February inviting more young single brothers to apply for Bethel service. So far, more than 900 have written in for applications! What a wonderful demonstration of loyalty on the part of God's people—to 'offer themselves willingly for Jehovah's service'! The opportunity to volunteer is still open; more workers are regularly needed.—Ps. 110:3.

To accommodate the anticipated increase in personnel of the Bethel family, it has been necessary to reduce the size of the Gilead School. So the present class, No. 57, is only about half the size of previous classes in recent years.

Meanwhile, the construction at Watchtower Farm is moving ahead at full speed. All indications are that by the end of 1974 the new factory building will be completed, considerably ahead of the original estimated date. For some time now, ten rotary presses in a finished portion of the Farm factory have been printing most of the *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines for this country, permitting an increase in the bound book production here in Brooklyn.

So let us look to Jehovah for greater expansion in the future, and let us pray that he continues to bless those remaining loyal down to the end.

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Show Loyalty to Our God!

In following up tract distribution and in offering Thousand Years book

1 Our distribution of *Kingdom News* No. 18, scheduled to be completed by May 12, is a token of our loyalty to Jehovah. How? Though it is a quickly completed work, quite different from our usual approach to the people, we do it because we realize that our God Jehovah knows the minds of men, and through his servants on earth he presents the message that is needed, and at the time when it will be most effective.

2 Loyalty involves sticking closely in devotion to our Sovereign God. Those who have distributed *Kingdom News* recognize that we must stand loyally by the message delivered. Therefore we return to these people to back up what has been said. We want to cultivate any interest raised by *Kingdom News*—to follow through so that it will achieve fully its desired effectiveness. This is also loyalty to our commission to help the people who are "skinned and thrown about like sheep without a shepherd." We feel an attachment to them and want to lead them to the place of safety.—Matt. 9:36.

3 An excellent way of expressing our loyalty, both to God and to the spiritually needy people, is by offering them the book *God's Kingdom of a Thousand Years Has Approached*. This we will do in May.

4 What has particularly appealed to you in the *Thousand Years* book? It provides the finest view of what the thousand-year reign will do for mankind. We can actually be most enthusiastic about the points that interest us. Select some of these that you find most attractive.

5 In presenting the book some publishers have been simply showing householders the title and telling them that the Kingdom for which they have long prayed has approached and that they will be encouraged by reading the book. These brothers and sisters have been having excellent success. Others have read to the householder the first paragraph in chapter one and the first sentence of paragraph 3 and in this way have aroused their interest. What have you found to be an appealing way to present the book?

6 Some have first read Isaiah 11:6-9, then have directed the householder's attention to the first sentence in paragraph 12 on page 144, which says: "In accordance with this, we can look for the charming description of animal life as set out in Isaiah 11:6-9 to have a literal fulfillment with the birds, fishes and land creatures of earth during the millennial reign of the Prince of Peace." Of course, you will undoubtedly try various presentations, according to the thinking of people in your territory.

7 The *Thousand Years* book impresses us with the loyalty that God has manifested over six thousand years of time. (Rev. 15:4) He has never deviated from his promise to bless mankind through the Seed, even though mankind has been disloyal and at this time expresses no loyalty at all toward him. God's loyalty inspires loyalty, however, in his faithful servants today. The final paragraph of the book forcefully expresses our inmost thoughts. After remarking on the unparalleled blessing the approaching thousand years will

(*Continued on page 8, col. 1*)

★ **Loyal to God in the Time of the End.** ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING MAY 12

12 min: Song 14. Introduction, text and comments, Branch Letter and Theocratic News.

3 min: Accounts report.

17 min: "How Are You Using Your Life?" Question-and-answer consideration of first half of article, up to subheading "A Service to Be Treasured." Some may wish to comment on scriptures not quoted. Read selected paragraphs as time permits.

15 min: "Show Loyalty to Our God!" Questions and answers. Read selected paragraphs. Include one or two brief demonstrations presenting the "Thousand Years" book.

13 min: Concluding comments. As time permits, relate one or two experiences from the article "Preaching the 'Good News' in the Frozen North" in the March 1, 1974, issue of "The Watchtower." Use the material to encourage the brothers to have a full share in the field service and also to read "The Watchtower."

Appropriate information from "Announcements" and "Covering Unworked Congregation Territory" can also be included. Song 13.

WEEK STARTING MAY 19

10 min: Song 77. Introduction, text and comments.

20 min: "What Protection for God's People?" This can be a discussion between one or two elders and one or two publishers who are concerned about Jehovah's protecting us during the "great tribulation." Use material in March 15, 1974, issue of "The Watchtower."

Elders will want to point out the issue involved and that, in the case of Job, it included 'touching his bone and his flesh' to determine if he served God out of love or was prompted by selfish considerations. Yes, Satan challenged, "Everything that a man has he will give in behalf of his soul." Now the question is, Do we consider it a privilege to share in the vindication of God's name even if it causes us physical suffering, even if it costs us our lives? God will never permit the adversary to wipe out all of His people.

What about God's preservation of the three Hebrews?

Consider why some of God's people may die during the "great tribulation." It is because of the hatred of Satan's organization for true worship. See the prophecy at Ezekiel 38:15, 16. It may be from physical hardships, the strain of which are too much for some to bear.

There will be survivors. Not a single one of Jehovah's people will perish at the hands of Jehovah's executional forces. Jehovah knows how to reward his people in a manner that is beyond their fondest expectations.

17 min: "How Are You Using Your Life?" Cover material from subheading "A Service to Be Treasured" to end of article. Questions and answers. Some may wish to read or comment on scriptures not quoted. Read the last three paragraphs, as well as other selected paragraphs as time permits.

13 min: Concluding comments. Experiences from local brothers in presenting the "Thousand Years" book. You may choose to have one or two of the brothers demonstrate briefly how they have been presenting the book in house-to-house work or to friends and neighbors. Encourage all who can do so to share in field service on the coming worldly holiday. Song 15.

WEEK STARTING MAY 26

10 min: Song 16. Introduction, text and comments. See also Question Box.

18 min: "Would You Be Willing to Help?" Chairman might begin his part by relating briefly one or two of the most upbuilding experiences in the article entitled "Thousands Baptized Each Week," from the March 8, 1974, "Awake!" The majority of time, however, should be spent in a question-and-answer consideration of the article "Would You Be Willing to Help?" Publishers may also have additional suggestions as to how they might help one another locally.

12 min: Offering the Bible and the "Peace and Security" book. Demonstrate presentations that brothers have found to be effective locally in making the offer. (For further ideas see the November 1973 "Kingdom Ministry.")

Remember also, we have the large-print "New World Translation," "The Bible in Living English" as well as the "Kingdom Interlinear Translation." We have the complete "New World Translation" in Dutch, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish, also the Greek Scriptures in French and Japanese.

Persons with whom you study may appreciate having a copy of the "Aid" book, the "Concordance," or other publications. Feel free to offer any of the Society's publications that you have on hand.

20 min: Concluding comments. Include an upbuilding and encouraging talk based on the article "What Prevents You from Getting Baptized?" from the June 1, 1974, "Watchtower." Song 107.

WEEK STARTING JUNE 2

10 min: Song 21. Introduction, text and comments.

20 min: Gaining Personal Benefit from Jonah's Way of Life.

Jonah probably lived during the ninth century B.C.E. He lived through the experience about which he wrote. The book that he wrote is the only one in the Hebrew Scriptures dealing exclusively with a prophetic message from Jehovah to a non-Israelite city whose people actually repented.

Invite the brothers to open their Bibles to the book of Jonah. Draw them out with the following questions:

1. According to Jonah 1:1, 2 what was Jonah's assignment from Jehovah, and what problems did it present to him? According to verse 3, what was Jonah's reaction to the assignment?

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS? Accept assignments of service willingly and try, with Jehovah's help, to carry them out without grumbling, finding fault or running away from them.

2. When Jonah fled from his assignment, what did Jehovah do, according to verse 4? What happened after the ship's crew hurled Jonah into the sea? (1:15-17) What evidence do we have that Jonah recognized that he had followed a wrong course? (2:1, 7, 9) How do we know that Jehovah heard Jonah's prayer and showed mercy? (2:10)

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS? When we show sincere repentance for past wrongdoing and ask Jehovah for help, he grants it. We should be careful that we do not accept his undeserved kindness and miss its purpose.

3. What command did Jehovah restate to Jonah? (3:1, 2) What did Jonah now do? (3:3, 4) What were the results? (3:5-9) What was God's reaction? (3:10) How did Jonah feel about the mercy God extended? (4:1-3, 5)

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS? Do not feel, like Jonah did at first, that Jehovah owes it to us to do a certain thing. Jehovah did not have to destroy the people of Nineveh just because Jonah preached that message. We should not feel that those to whom we preach should receive an adverse judgment because of their reaction to the message we bring; rather, we should wait on Jehovah and hope the best for them. There may be a change of heart and repentance.

At one time we did not think that so many would be coming back in the resurrection, but there is no reason to be displeased at Jehovah's mercy; rather, we rejoice that judgment decisions are in the hands of Jehovah and his Son.

4. What added blessing did Jehovah give Jonah? (4:6) What happened to interfere with Jonah's comfort? (4:7, 8) What fitting comparison did Jehovah make? (4:10, 11)

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THIS? Never lack in appreciation for the undeserved kindness Jehovah shows us. Rejoice also when mercy is extended to others.

The account reveals that Jonah proved to be a faithful servant of Jehovah. He was candid, honest, even writing about his own attitude and Jehovah's dealings with him. Remember the account and benefit personally from it.

17 min: Getting Acquainted with Our Brothers. Interview a number of publishers to bring out points that will be encouraging to the congregation.

Interview some who are newly associated with the congregation. What did you notice about Jehovah's organization that attracted you to it? What have you come to appreciate about it now? Why is it that you arrange to get to meetings regularly? What would you do if family members or relatives started to oppose you or ridicule the truth? (Encourage tact.) What have you done to share the truth with your friends, neighbors and relatives?

Interview publishers who have been with the organization for a number of years. Why have you stuck with the truth? Why do you keep going from door to door? As you see this old system of things continue to deteriorate, how does it strike you? Have you seen cases where brothers showed tact, kindness and love toward family members not in the truth and it worked out well? With Jehovah's help, what are your plans for the future? Do you have a favorite scripture that encourages or strengthens you?

John 6:68

13 min: Concluding comments. Draw attention to some of the introductions mentioned in "Presenting the Good News." Encourage brothers to read and use the suggestions they find most appropriate.

Include local field service report for May if this is available. Song 32.

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HOW ARE YOU USING YOUR LIFE?

IS IT not apparent that most of mankind are living their lives for themselves? They are using their lives as *they* see fit, without concern for others. But what about us? The apostle Paul wrote to fellow servants of Jehovah, saying: "None of us, in fact, lives with regard to himself only, and no one dies with regard to himself only; for both if we live, we live to Jehovah, and if we die, we die to Jehovah. Therefore both if we live and if we die, we belong to Jehovah."—Rom. 14:7, 8.

This is something for all of us to give serious thought to: It would be entirely inappropriate for us, while professing to be Jehovah's people, to try to live our lives with regard to ourselves only. As the apostle Paul wrote: "You do not belong to yourselves, for you were bought with a price. By all means, glorify God."—1 Cor. 6:19, 20.

Are we not thankful that Jehovah God has purchased us and that we now belong to Him? He has bought us with the life of his own dear Son so that eternal death does not have to be our lot, but we have before us the opportunity to enjoy everlasting life. (John 3:16, 36) How are you affected by this loving provision of God? Does it not cause you to want to show Jehovah your deep appreciation? The apostle Peter noted that if we have the proper mental disposition we will be moved to "live the remainder of [our] time in the flesh, no more for the desires of men, *but for God's will.*"—1 Pet. 4:2.

Is that what you are doing? Are you living no longer simply to satisfy personal ambitions or desires, but to do God's will? Are there ways in which you could share more fully in doing the will of God?

God's Will for Us

Jehovah makes clear in his Word that his will for us today includes accomplishing a great work of Kingdom-preaching before the end of this system comes. (Matt. 24:14) Jesus Christ did a similar work. He said: "Also to other cities I must declare the good news of the kingdom of God, *because for this I was sent forth.*"—Luke 4:43.

Jesus did not hold back, but was whole-souled in his service to God. When we read the historical accounts of his ministry in the Gospels, how impressed we are with his energy and zeal in doing the Kingdom-preaching! Jesus knew that he had only a short time, and he did not spare himself in finishing his assignment. Should we not today be imitating his example, especially since we have such a short time left now in which to complete the Kingdom-preaching?

Yes, the end of this system is so very near! Is that not reason to increase our activity? In this regard we can learn something from a runner who puts on a final burst of speed near the finish of a race. Look at Jesus, who apparently stepped up his activity during his final days on earth. In fact, over 27 percent of the material in the Gospels is devoted to just the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry!—Matt. 21:1–27:50; Mark 11:1–15:37; Luke 19:29–23:46; John 11:55–19:30.

By carefully and prayerfully examining our own circumstances, we also may find that we can spend more time and energy in preaching during this final period before the present system ends. Many of our brothers and sisters are doing just that. This is evident from the rapidly increasing number of pioneers.

Yes, since the summer of 1973 there have been new peaks in pioneers every month. Now there are 20,394 regular and special pioneers in the United States, an all-time peak. That is 5,190 more than there were in February 1973! A 34-percent increase! Does that not warm our hearts? Reports are heard of brothers selling their homes and property and planning to finish out the rest of their days in this old system in the pioneer service. Certainly this is a fine way to spend the short time remaining before the wicked world's end.—1 John 2:17.

Circumstances such as poor health or responsibilities in connection with your family may limit what you can do in the field ministry. And yet, the pioneer ranks include many who have health limitations, as well as some persons with families. But these brothers and sisters are able to regulate their lives so that they can care for their responsibilities and still put in the 1,200 hours a year, an average of 100 hours a month in the field ministry, required of pioneers.

Therefore, do not be too quick to dismiss the possibility that you, too, may be able to pioneer. Give it careful and prayerful consideration. Perhaps an analysis will reveal that your life is encumbered with needless weights that can be put off so that you can pioneer. Particularly may this be the case if you are single, or are married but have no children.—Heb. 12:1.

So, then, ask yourself: How am I using my life? Can I make adjustments that will enable me to pioneer? If I can, will failure to do so indicate to Jehovah that I am living to satisfy personal desires, rather than to do His will? Every one of us wants to be able to say, as did the apostle Paul, "Indeed, the life that I now live in flesh I live by the faith that is toward the Son of God, who loved me and handed himself over for me. I do not shove aside the undeserved kindness of God." —Gal. 2:20, 21.

Real blessings await those who can adjust their affairs to pioneer. First, there is a certain added contentment in sharing full time in the preaching work that God purposes all his servants now to do. Pioneering enlarges your opportunity to "save" yet scattered prospective members of the "great crowd." (1 Tim. 4:16; Rev. 7:9, 14) Also, there may open up to you the privilege of being sent as a special pioneer into territory that is not often worked. And for those pioneering, there is the possibility of the opportunity of training at Gilead School and then going on to foreign missionary service.

So do not delay in giving serious consideration to this matter of how you are using your life. See if you can arrange your affairs to pioneer. Why not discuss the matter with persons already pioneering or with elders in your congregation?

As you probably are aware, to qualify as a regular pioneer you should have been baptized for at least six months, and have participated in the field service each month for the past six months. Also, it is vital that you have a reputation for fine Christian conduct.

A Need at Bethel

There is another opportunity of service that we would also like you to consider seriously. And that is Bethel service. Most of you know something about Bethel. It is where this *Kingdom Ministry,* as well as the literature that you use in Kingdom-preaching, is produced. At Bethel, both at Brooklyn and at Watchtower Farm, we are able to produce publications for your use at a very reasonable cost, which we are sure that you very much appreciate.

Perhaps, though, you have little idea of the amount of literature now required. For example, from September to February over 21,500,000 bound books and Bibles were made here at Bethel—over 200,000 on some days! And yet in these six months, orders for 33 million more books were received! So right now there are orders from throughout the world for over 35 million books and Bibles! The supplies of most of the branches are very low. And all of this despite the fact that for months now about 75 brothers have been running many of the bindery machines on an all-night shift.

But besides books, at Brooklyn and at Watchtower Farm we are also printing an average of more than 21 million magazines a month, about 900,000 every working day. These all have to be wrapped and mailed to people all over the world. About 1,000 persons are required to operate the factories. They work at proofreading, typesetting, plate-making, operating presses, making ink and glue, running bindery machines, and so forth. Hundreds of others raise the food, cook the meals, do the laundry, care for the homes, work in offices; others are building another factory for enlarged printing operations. All together, including the 76 Gilead and Kingdom Ministry School students, some 1,800 persons live and work at the Society's headquarters. Over 400 of these persons work at the new facilities called Watchtower Farm located north of New York city.

As you can appreciate, the growth of the preaching work requires many workers at Bethel. Also, there is the continual need to replace those who each year find it necessary to leave. Thus, during 1973 some 360 new workers were called in to the headquarters staff. Presently we are increasing the night shift in the bindery, and to do this the many needed workers were called to Bethel, over one hundred single brothers. So you see why we wanted to bring to your attention the opportunity of Bethel service. We expect that between May and September one hundred more single young brothers will be called to Bethel service.

However, not everyone is able to work here. Most of the work here is physically hard—*work for healthy young men.* So at present, sisters or married couples are not being invited. But if you are a single brother between 18 and 35 years of age, in good health and baptized for more than one year, we encourage you to consider Bethel service. You may obtain an application by writing to the President's Office, 124 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, New York 11201.

A Service to Be Treasured

It is true, there is an inclination in the world today to look down upon and to shy away from physical labor. But the Bible does not take this view. In fact, the apostle Paul admonished a person: "Let him do hard work, doing with his hands what is good work, that he may have something to distribute to someone in need."—Eph. 4:28; 1 Thess. 4:11.

At Bethel we are probably in a better position to provide things for distribution to those in need than are any other people in the world. As a Bethelite of fourteen years said: "I really feel like I'm serving my brothers here. I feel like I'm constantly involved in giving, rather than being concerned with my own problems." Such giving can bring genuine contentment and happiness, even as Jesus Christ himself said. (Acts 20:35) Would you like to serve Jehovah God and your Christian brothers wholeheartedly in this way?

Perhaps, though, you have reservations. Some who have been at Bethel may have told you that life here is routine and much of the work is monotonous. But do not many persons say the same thing about life and work wherever they are? Thus a brother who has served for thirty-eight years at Bethel noted: "Attitude has a lot to do with it. You have routine anywhere. I'd rather have routine among pleasant circumstances than unpleasant." Another long-time Bethelite observed: "I appreciate the routine and the schedule."

Actually a good routine helps you to get a lot done. And do we not want to do as much as we can to further the worldwide preaching work in the short time remaining? A brother, who has been at Bethel with his wife for eighteen years, explained his feelings: "We have pioneered and done circuit and district work, and I can say that you can do the greatest good with your waking hours here at Bethel. You are *totally consumed.* We realize it is not Utopia, but our biggest motivation is that we want to have the fullest share in getting the preaching work done." Do you, too, strongly desire to have the fullest share in furthering the Kingdom-preaching? If so, Bethel may well be the place for you.

Yet, you may still wonder: Is not working long hours on certain factory jobs monotonous? It does not have to be. Monotony is largely a state of mind. If a person at Bethel keeps his mind focused on the fact that what he is doing is pleasing to Jehovah and is serving to spread the Kingdom message, then the work is truly satisfying. That is how hundreds of brothers who have served for many years at Bethel feel about it.

One might note certain similarities between Bethel service and the work done by those Levites privileged to serve long ago at Jehovah's temple. Much of their work was hard and unglamorous, even what some might consider monotonous. Yet it was vital to Jehovah's worship. It had to do with watchman duties, dining-room service, butchering animals and preparing food, and so forth—types of work similar to what is presently done by many here at Bethel. (1 Chron. 9:26-32) For example, there are some 35 full-time preparers of the food at Bethel, and about 30 waiters in the dining rooms. But what a privilege to do this kind of hard work at the center of Jehovah's earthly organization!

When we consider what Jehovah has done for us through Jesus Christ, should we not be moved to do whatever we can to accomplish God's will? As the apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "For the love the Christ has compels us, because this is what we have judged, that one man died for all; so, then, all had died; and he died for all that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died for them and was raised up." (2 Cor. 5:14, 15) Are you living no longer for yourself, but to do Jehovah's will? If so, you will be eager to do whatever at the present time appears to be God's will for you.

In this connection, it is important to have a proper view of God's will for his people. Do not expect that God's will for his servants is necessarily easy. Was it easy, for example, for Noah and his family to work day in and day out, year after year, building the ark for as long as presently would be called a lifetime? Was it easy for Nehemiah and his companions to complete the rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls? Is it easy today to preach the good news in lands where the work is banned, thus risking imprisonment and perhaps death? And yet these activities have been, at various times, God's will for his people. At all times Jehovah's servants have found pleasure in doing God's will, and so offer themselves willingly to do what needs to be done.—Ps. 110:3.

When a young brother volunteers for Bethel service, fine opportunities and grand blessings are opened up to him. The satisfaction of helping to produce literature that is assisting thousands of persons *every week* to dedicate their lives to Jehovah is only part of it. In addition, there is the privilege of associating with many older ones of the anointed class and hearing at the breakfast table their comments on the daily text. Also, reports are frequently heard by representatives of the Society when they return from traveling abroad. Missionary students, too, tell about the preaching work in their territories, and during their months at school Bethelites are able to visit with them and get acquainted.

Also, each member of the Bethel family attends the meetings and works in the field ministry with a local congregation of Jehovah's witnesses, of which there are now 235 in New York city. This is a real joy, as a brother at Bethel for thirteen years observes: "The New York congregations are a spiritual paradise with great interest in the Kingdom. The people here see the urgency!" One Bethel sister noted: "I have helped as many people to find the truth since I have been at Bethel, five in fact, as I did when pioneering."

Perhaps the greatest blessing, however, is living and working all day long only with persons who truly love Jehovah. This is what so many at Bethel especially treasure. As one member said: "Others visit Bethel for a day, and feel uplifted. We have that blessing every day." If you qualify to come to Bethel, we feel that you, too, will find it a service to be treasured.

Encourage Others to Full-Time Service

Perhaps, though, you are not able to engage in the full-time service as a pioneer or at Bethel, because of having a family to support or due to old age and poor health. Why not, then, urge others, especially the younger ones, to seize hold of such special privileges? Help others to analyze their goals in life. Ask them what they are going to do when they graduate from school? Reason with them to see that the dying old world has nothing to offer. Help them to show Jehovah that they truly appreciate his undeserved kindness by volunteering to serve where his organization needs them the most, especially 'in the days of their young manhood.' Help those who now qualify for Bethel service to say, in effect, "Here I am! Send me," by filling out and sending in their application.—Eccl. 12:1; Isa. 6:8.

If you are an elder in the congregation, do not simply talk about these matters from the platform, but, as opportunity affords, talk to the young brothers personally. Parents, why not regularly keep the treasure of pioneering and Bethel service before your children? Many now at Bethel are so happy that they were encouraged in this direction. One Bethelite, who has served now for nearly two decades at Bethel, notes: "Often a group from Bethel would come out to my family's farm and we would get together and tell experiences. They built in me an appreciation of Bethel. Even before I came I knew of the happinesses of Bethel life."

Truly, using our lives in any way possible in Jehovah's service brings a measure of happiness. We have so much to live for—an eternity of blessings while serving Jehovah. Surely we are all grateful for His making this possible by the sacrifice of His dear Son. Let us all, therefore, show our heartfelt appreciation by the way that we use our lives. Let us prove that we are no longer living for ourselves, but to do Jehovah's will.

Would You Be Willing to Help?

1 How? you ask. Well, first let us consider some facts with you and you will no doubt see for yourself how you might help. You were thrilled to learn that during the past service year 193,990 were baptized the world around, weren't you? Yes, we all were. Did you know that 55,775 of those baptized were here in the United States? Have you heard that during the first six months of this service year another 31,579 disciples have been baptized here? And do you remember that during December, when we distributed *Kingdom News,* 525,007 shared in the witness work, and that that was 103,112 more than shared in the field service in this country one year previously? Yes, there are many, many new ones associated with us in serving Jehovah. What joy this brings us!

2 Now, can you think of ways you might help these new ones? Some have shared in the field service just a few times. They may not feel strong enough to take the initiative to go out by themselves. Are there some in your congregation who would share in the field service more regularly if they had someone with whom to work—if you invited them to go along with you? (Eccl. 4:9, 10) Take the initiative in extending the invitation regularly.

3 Some publishers enjoyed offering the *Kingdom News* to people but do not feel they can make other presentations in the house-to-house work. Could you help one of these to prepare a magazine presentation? Would you be willing to practice it with him until he feels at ease with it? Or you might help him to prepare a one-scripture presentation to use in the regular house-to-house work.

4 New publishers may feel disappointed when some householders choose not to listen to them. But it is good to call to mind what Jehovah told Jeremiah: "And you must speak to them all these words," but he also told him, "they will not listen to you." Show them that verse at Jeremiah 7:27. It may be very encouraging to them to learn that their success in the field ministry is not measured by how many persons listen to them. While many do not listen to our presentations, there are many who do and there are many more who observe us. When we are in the service, the angels see us, Jehovah and Jesus see us, and so do the people in the territory. So our presence there and the few words we do speak about Jehovah and his kingdom can be a fine witness and a great honor to Jehovah.

5 On the other hand, many who do not choose to speak to us at length may feel they are too busy to talk. In parting, new publishers could easily extend a handbill and invite the householder to the Kingdom Hall. Some publishers, with reference to the June offer, may tell the householder: 'If it is not convenient to talk now, perhaps you would like to accept this fine Bible and Bible study aid. They can be yours for a contribution of just $1.25.'

6 Are you one of the newly associated publishers? Then you have tasted the pleasure that comes from serving Jehovah, who gave us the truth as well as all the other things that we enjoy in life. And you have experienced to some extent the happiness that comes from "giving" to others in the witness work. (Acts 20:35) Would you like to have a greater share in the work? Then we encourage you to take the initiative and ask experienced publishers if you may go along with them in the service.

7 Whether you have been in Jehovah's service for many years or are newly associated, will you take the initiative? Will you show your love for Jehovah and for your brothers by helping them to share regularly in his service?

FEBRUARY SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	643	147.4	60.8	5.6	152.6
Pios.	19,751	95.5	37.4	3.2	98.6
Temp. Pios.	8,524	82.0	25.1	1.5	83.4
Pubs.	469,259	10.0	4.7	.5	14.1
TOTAL	498,177				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 5,016

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

HOW DID WE DO IN FEBRUARY?

With Jehovah's blessing, we did very well! There were 498,177 who shared in field service during this winter month. That is the highest number of publishers who have shared in Jehovah's service in this country in any one month except December, when we were distributing the "Kingdom News." It is 61,718, or 14.1 percent, more than shared in field service last February. It is a fine indication that many who shared with us in the tract work are determined to show their love for Jehovah and for their neighbors by continued activity in Kingdom-preaching. It is an indication that you brothers appreciate the love that Jehovah has shown you.

And Jehovah blessed you with good results in your activity. You placed 150,067 subscriptions, 9,379,160 magazines and 547,274 books, which is an excellent report. No doubt these publications will aid many who are seeking Jehovah and seeking righteousness.

Covering Unworked Congregation Territory

1 Publishers or pioneers interested in helping a congregation to cover territory that it has and that has not been worked for at least a year should review the information in the April 1973 *Kingdom Ministry* article "Covering Unworked Territory."

2 The presiding overseer can then send a letter to the Society listing the names of car group captains and show how far the car group could travel and how many territories of about 200 homes could be worked by each group listed. This information should be sent to the Society about May 15 by the presiding overseer.

3 Where there is congregation territory needing to be worked

(*Continued on page 8, col. 2*)

Announcements

◆ Literature offer:

May: *God's Kingdom of a Thousand Years Has Approached,* with a booklet, on a contribution of 50c.

June: *New World Translation* and *Peace and Security* book, $1.25.

July: *Peace and Security* book for 25c.

◆ Congregations of 75 or more publishers may wish to stock at least two copies of the large-print edition of the *New World Translation,* perhaps *The Bible in Living English,* also the *Aid* book and the *Concordance.* Then if publishers get an order for one of these publications by showing interested persons their own copies, they can be supplied right away from the local Kingdom Hall supply. Two copies of each of these large expensive books should be enough for such a congregation. When these are placed, order two more. They are cash items.

We suggest that the responsible brothers carefully check their records to determine how many copies of these publications moved out of their stock in the past four months. Do not order more than a four-month supply. We do not wish to store these books on the shelves of the congregations if you will not be using them.

◆ District assembly lapel cards in English and Spanish and also celluloid holders should be ordered on the Literature Order Blank. They will be charged to the congregation literature account. Lapel cards will not be available at the assembly.

◆ If you are planning to attend a convention in another country or want a Kingdom Hall address overseas, it is necessary for you to write the branch office for that country, not the Brooklyn office, to get details. Branch addresses appear in the back of the *Yearbook.* If you do not find a particular country or island in the branch listing, you can refer to the service chart in the *Yearbook* to see which branch has jurisdiction and then you may write to that branch office.

The Society is not arranging any Watchtower Tours to any country this year.

◆ The six-month period given for any baptized Witnesses to desist from using tobacco expired in December of 1973. So, all cases involving persons who continue to use tobacco should have been given attention by the congregation judicial committee by this time.

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

Introductions

1 Many publishers have said that one of the biggest challenges they face in house-to-house work is catching the interest of the householder, getting a hearing ear—yes, finding an effective introduction. Is this true in your case too?

2 Notice the suggestion that Jesus made as recorded at Luke 10:5. He said: "Wherever you enter into a house say first, 'May this house have peace.'" While this is a greeting that is not common among people in this country today, yet it gives us an idea as to how we might introduce ourselves and begin conversations. How? By identifying ourselves as friends and by featuring something encouraging, something that may bring peace of mind to the householder. You might say: "I'm very glad I found you at home. I have brought something that I'd like to share with you and I hope it will make today one of the happiest days of the year for you." Does that sound like a warm and encouraging way to start a conversation? How about your introduction? Will it tell the householder that you have come in peace and to bring a good message to him?

3 Would you like to know how some of your brothers are introducing themselves with considerable success in various parts of the country?

INTRODUCTIONS THAT DISPLAY WARMTH

4 Some publishers start the conversation by saying: "How are you today? I've brought something encouraging for you."

5 If the householder comes to the door with a smile, one brother says: "It is a pleasure to meet someone with a smile. It shows you are a happy person. Most people today do not have much to be happy about, do they? . . . I have stopped by to add to your happiness." If the householder has no smile, the brother says: "I have stopped by with something encouraging. When you read the newspaper you don't read much to be happy about, do you?"

6 Another starts by saying: "I'm one of Jehovah's witnesses. You may wonder why we are calling again. Well, we have the very best in mind for you; that's why we came."

INTRODUCING A SUBJECT

7 Some publishers have found that if they introduce a subject of interest to the householder, it helps to catch interest. For instance, if a brother notices that a householder may be busy, he says: "Everyone is so busy these days. We often wish we had more time, isn't that true? Well, I have good news for you. Things are going to change. May I tell you about it?"

8 Some draw attention to problems that concern the householder, saying: "We would like to get your idea on a problem we have here in the community."

9 One brother says: "I'm looking for people who would like to live forever. Have you ever thought of that?"

10 Talk with other brothers and sisters in your area and you may get some good ideas as you learn what has been successful for them. Try different introductions. When you find an effective way to introduce the good news, use it. What will prove effective depends on the interest of people in your territory, the kind of people you talk to, as well as your personality. Keep the matter before Jehovah in prayer. He can help us to improve our effectiveness in reaching people and presenting the good news.

Show Loyalty to Our God! *(Cont'd)*

bring, the book states: "How worthy that thrilling prospect is of each one's now putting forth his best efforts to realize it in his own case, in faith and appreciation toward Jehovah God, who holds out the inviting prospect!" True, indeed, and our loyalty will prompt us to do all we can to set this same brilliant prospect before many others as the living hope.

Covering Unworked Territory *(Cont'd)*

within the distance specified, the Society will write to the presiding overseer, advising him of the name of the congregation needing help, etc. This information can then be given to the ones who have volunteered. Where there are no congregations within the distance specified that need help, no reply will be sent.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ South Africa surpasses January's peak by almost 3,000, with 28,397 reporting—a 24-percent increase over last year's average. Branch also reports peaks in Lesotho, South-West Africa and Swaziland.

◆ France reports 40,663 Bible studies in one month for the first time; also new peak of 52,638 publishers.

◆ Thailand reports fifth peak in a row, with 533 in service.

◆ Indonesia had ninth successive peak, with 3,487 reporting. Already 543 baptized, compared with 520 all of last year.

◆ New Zealand reports a new peak of 7,107—first time over the 7,000 mark.

◆ At a circuit assembly in Alaska the attendance reached 1,986; 58 baptized.

◆ Witnessing in the largest town in eastern Iceland, two temporary pioneers placed 199 books, 656 magazines and obtained 70 new subscriptions.

◆ Chile reports new peak of 659 temporary pioneers for one month; one congregation reported 65 temporary pioneers—including all the elders and ministerial servants.

Question Box

● Is the school overseer still to give counsel on speech qualities after each student talk?

Yes. As pointed out in the Instructions for the Theocratic Ministry School for 1974: "Specific counsel on each student talk will be given, following the program of progressive counsel outlined at the bottom of the Speech Counsel slip."

The student is informed on his assignment slip what point(s) he is working on, and it is appropriate for the school overseer to give counsel or commendation on how he did. Perhaps the student did very well in applying the suggestions given in the "School Guidebook." It is appropriate for the counselor briefly to commend the student for this and he may be able to comment on **how** the student applied the suggestions and **why** it is appropriate for him to have developed this speech quality or how it will be useful to him in the field ministry—which comments can be instructive and beneficial for all who are in attendance at the school.

As noted in the school Instructions for 1974, however, the whole two minutes need not be spent in discussion of speech qualities. In fact, it is appropriate for the emphasis to be placed on spiritual matters. To accomplish this, appropriate comments on important points from material assigned, but not covered by the speakers, can be made. Remarks highlighting the value of the information to us can help to keep the attention of all focused primarily on the Scriptural information presented. For a good balance on this, see the suggestions given on page 7 of the December 1972 issue of the "Kingdom Ministry."

The school overseer should be careful to use no more than two minutes for his counsel and comments after each student talk.

★ **Can You Help a Newer Publisher This Week?** ★

Kis D.

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
JUNE 1974 VOL. XVII NO. 6

"Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18.

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

Reports coming in here each month from the more than 6,000 congregations in the United States are most encouraging.

In March there was a new peak of 20,104 regular pioneers. The report of 507,681 publishers represents a 15.5-percent increase over last year's average. Comparisons of this March report with that of a year ago reveal that the number of return visits increased over 12 percent and home Bible studies were up nearly 11 percent. And this in spite of widespread sickness in many parts of the country.

And do you know that every month during this service year has seen a phenomenal increase in the number of those baptized? Why, so far in the first seven months there has been a total of 39,118 baptized, compared to 25,469 in the same period last year. That represents a 53.5-percent increase!

It is only to be expected that with all this stepped-up activity, this year's Memorial attendance would make a big jump over last year's. It is too early for the worldwide figure on this, but here in the continental United States there were over 130,000 more present than a year ago—more than a 12-percent jump!

The busy month of March ended with the special talk and was quickly followed by the even busier month of April, with the Memorial and with special issues of the magazines to distribute. There is no indication of letup in May either, with the distribution of *Kingdom News* No. 18. And now after such a busy spring we are looking forward to a very busy summer with the series of "Divine Purpose" District Assemblies beginning this month of June.

What a happy sight to see so many new ones also standing steadfast and looking intently at the promised inheritance—perfect life under government by God!

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Steadfast in Faithful Service

[1] We have good reason to be steadfast in our service to God and Christ. That service has brought us refreshment. (Matt. 11:28-30) No longer are we laboring under burdensome religious traditions. We have learned how to spend our time, abilities and assets purposefully, to the praise and honor of our Creator. We find pleasure in associating with loving brothers and sisters. We enjoy peace of mind and heart because of having a clean conscience before God and men. And before us there is the glorious prospect of life in God's new order —life free from sickness, old age and death.

[2] Many honest-hearted people very much desire what we are enjoying. Are you eager to help them? During the month of June we will be offering the *New World Translation* and the *Peace and Security* book on a contribution of $1.25.

[3] True, many people have a Bible. But few read it. One reason for this is that the archaic language of a number of popular translations has discouraged them. Undoubtedly they will find reading the *New World Translation* a refreshing change. Others do not even have a copy of the complete Bible in their home. Do they not need the "word of life"? At times older ones remark that they have difficulty in reading the small print in their Bible. You may want to show them your personal large-print *New World Translation* when you return, or show the print size from the folder that you carry with you describing Bibles and Bible study aids.

[4] Then, too, some people are interested in the Bible from a student's or scholar's standpoint. If informed about what is available, they may want to get the translation by Byington, *The Kingdom Interlinear Translation*, the *Comprehensive Concordance* or *Aid to Bible Understanding*. It may be that these publications will aid such ones to come to know Jehovah. Also offer them to those with whom you conduct Bible studies.

[5] It is good to keep in mind our main objective for being steadfast in faithful service—to glorify our heavenly Father. Even if our territory is covered often, our work is not done. Jehovah God wants humans to have ample opportunity to repent. It is his will, therefore, that we speak to our fellowman again and again.—2 Pet. 3:9.

[6] We do not know just how many people will change their attitude and be among the "great crowd" that will survive the approaching "great tribulation." (Rev. 7:9, 14) But as things worsen in this old system, more persons are having their eyes opened. Never have we had such increases as in recent months. Also, our repeated calls cause people to take notice, particularly when they see that we speak with conviction about our God-given hope. Truly, now is no time to slow down and to devote less time to the field service. Rather, it is a time for zealous activity.

[7] Whether you have been sharing the "good news" with others for many years or just a few months, continue steadfast. Many persons are listening appreciatively to the good news. Do not become discouraged when others do not listen with appreciation. Few responded to Jesus Christ, but he continued steadfast. Even if you are able to say just a few words, you are still bearing fruitage, for your appreciative heart is motivating you to bear witness. (Matt. 13:23; Luke 6:45) You are showing love for Jehovah and deep concern for fellow humans. So continue to rely on Jehovah and the help of his spirit to strengthen and sustain you in faithful service. Remember, "God is not unrighteous so as to forget your work and the love you showed for his name."—Heb. 6:10.

★ Steadfast While Looking at the Inheritance. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING JUNE 9

10 min: Song 33. Introduction, text and comments.

5 min: Accounts report; include comments on the article entitled "Kingdom Halls."

15 min: Discourse, along with some audience participation, on the article "Steadfast in Faithful Service." Include comments on weekend arrangements for field service and encouragement to participate.

20 min: Appreciation of Jehovah's Provision for His Servants to Assemble Together.

"Divine Purpose" District Assemblies are soon to begin. Assemblies are important in the lives of Jehovah's servants. (Invite the audience to comment on the following points, using material from the Bible, "The Watchtower," "Awake!" and "1974 Yearbook.")

(1) How does the Bible show that large assemblies have long been a feature of true worship? (Neh. 8:1-3, 7, 8; Lev. chapter 23) The experiences of our brothers in Germany and elsewhere can help us to appreciate this provision. (2) Although some had very little materially, what did they do about attending assemblies? ("yb," p. 99, par. 2; p. 219, par. 1) (3) What type of sleeping accommodations did they gladly accept? Why? How can we benefit from their example? ("yb," p. 249, par. 1) (4) When they encountered opposition, how did the outcome give evidence of Jehovah's blessing? ("yb," p. 215, par. 5, through p. 216, par. 2; p. 224, pars. 1, 2) (5) How have large assemblies resulted in a grand public witness, to which all those in attendance contributed by their presence? ("yb," p. 219, par. 4; p. 238, par. 4; p. 239, par. 4) (6) How has the conduct of our brothers and sisters attending assemblies resulted in a good witness? What responsibility should we feel in this regard? (w73 8/15 p. 486; w74 3/1 p. 149; g72 10/22 p. 19; km 5/73 pp. 7, 8)

The facts make it evident that Jehovah's blessing is on these assemblies of His people; by our attendance we share in that blessing. Encourage all to attend one of the assemblies this summer. Discuss any local arrangements to aid all in the congregation to get to the assembly.

10 min: Concluding comments. As time allows, include recent items of special interest from "Insight on the News" or "Watching the World." Encourage all to read, before next week, the March 15, 1974, "Watchtower" article "Consider What Jehovah Has Done for You." Song 30.

WEEK STARTING JUNE 16

15 min: Song 31. Introduction, text and comments. Discuss highlights of Branch Letter and items of interest from Theocratic News.

10 min: "Regular Coverage of Territory." Discuss article, using audience participation. Include comments on field service arrangements for the days ahead.

20 min: Joy in Finding Answers. Discourse and demonstration.

In daily life and field service, questions arise. What answer is in the Bible and publications of "faithful and discreet slave"? Rather than just ask someone, use "Watch Tower Publications Index" to find the answer. Doing your own research with "Index" is both quick and satisfying. It will bring you joy.—Prov. 2:4, 5.

Display indexes. (1930-1960; 1961-1965; 1966-1970; 1971; 1972; 1973) Publications are indexed by year. The "Aid" book is covered by 1966-1970 "Index," so that "Index" is of particular value. Abbreviations of publications are explained in front of each and on left-hand pages. Each "Index" has Scripture portion and subject portion. Available in Kingdom Hall library.

With indexes and some publications on platform, show how to use. Note: State answers in one or two sentences. Do NOT spend time giving detailed answers; show HOW TO FIND answers. (1) Is it wrong to have a pet sterilized? (Check subject portion in 1973 "Index" under "Animals" and subheading "sterilization.") (2) Does Matthew 27:52 mean that at Jesus' death some persons were resurrected? (Check Scripture portion of 1973 "Index," then 1972, 1971, and finally 1966-1970; brief answer at "ad," p. 478; p. 1004 deals with another aspect; p. 1134 gives extensive discussion.) (3) What material can I use to help someone who is depressed? (Check subject portion under "Depression"; 1973 "Index" lists g73 10/8 12, but it is not right aspect; 1972 "Index" leads to w72 521, 522, good, but is there more?; 1971 "Index" refers to whole article, w71 261-264.) (4) Why is Gehenna called "second death" if some persons going to it never died before? (1973 "Index" under "Second Death" refers to "ka," pp. 157, 158.)

If you do not have a certain publication referred to, likely another brother does, or it may be in the library at Kingdom Hall. Increase your joy and blessings by using "Index" often.

15 min: Concluding comments. Discuss with audience material from the March 15, 1974, "Watchtower" article "Consider What Jehovah Has Done for You." Include material from the article itself, but encourage audience to comment from their own hearts too. Song 23.

WEEK STARTING JUNE 23

15 min: Song 27. Introduction and family discussion of text. Family also to discuss helpful thoughts on how to offer the current magazines; discuss and emphasize details in article "Showing Consideration."

15 min: What We Are Doing in the Field Service.

Chairman briefly comments on what congregation has done in recent months as to hours, placements, return visits, conducting home Bible studies, etc. Comment on local trend in meeting attendance, also any increase in number of publishers.

Discussion among a number of zealous publishers who are regular in field service on weekdays; some may have regular meetings for service, and others may simply arrange among themselves to go out at set times. Encourage them to tell what they do and to share experiences giving evidence of Jehovah's blessing on their efforts.

Several brothers discuss arrangements for evening field service and on the weekends. Outline local arrangements for witnessing on July 4. Encourage enthusiastic participation.

Invite publishers who have new ones they would like to take out in service to speak to the elders about the needed qualifications.

Chairman interviews some who are regular pioneers or those who often temporary pioneer as to why they do it, also how they arrange their affairs to manage it. Encourage others to include temporary pioneering in their plans for the summer.

15 min: Talk on April 15, 1974, "Watchtower" article on the subject "Why Be Honest?" Include some audience participation. Prov 20:17

15 min: Concluding comments. Discuss Question Box material and include appropriate items from Announcements as time permits. Song 17.

WEEK STARTING JUNE 30

15 min: Song 42. Introduction; family discussion of text. Family also discusses April 1, 1974, "Watchtower" article "Do You Practice 'Finders Keepers'?"

15 min: "Presenting the Good News—Where There Is No Ready Response." Discuss article and demonstrate points that will be helpful locally.

20 min: "What Are You Doing Now to Prepare?" Talk based on article in April 15, 1974, "Watchtower."

10 min: Concluding comments. Encourage good use of opportunities for field service over the weekend. Song 39.

WEEK STARTING JULY 7

10 min: Song 40. Introduction, text and comments.

15 min: Making Application in Our Field Service.

Several publishers discuss what can be done to make practical application in local field service of the counsel received at the district assembly in the program part entitled, "Preach, Saying, 'The Kingdom of the Heavens Has Drawn Near.'" Emphasize thoroughness in our field service, also importance of making disciples and how to start home Bible studies.

25 min: Review of District Assembly Program.

Invite comments on the following points: (1) New things learned; these may be new to the individual publisher, not necessarily all of them new to the organization. (2) Helpful counsel regarding elders, their qualifications and responsibilities. (3) Suggestions that were offered to assist new ones to make progress spiritually. (4) What young ones among Jehovah's witnesses are doing in service to God. (5) Qualities or attitudes that we should cultivate; how and why to do so. (6) Lessons learned from the Bible dramas. (7) Experiences, whether related on the program or enjoyed personally.

It would be beneficial to make arrangements before the assembly for various ones to make notes on the points suggested above as a basis for review of the program.

10 min: Concluding comments. Song 36.

(If you have not had your district assembly by early July, you can have another program on this week and then arrange to have this assembly review after your district assembly.)

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Regular Coverage of Territory

1 Because we are sincerely interested in helping all persons living in the congregation's territory to hear and respond to the Kingdom message, we call on them repeatedly. Various literature offers and a variety of approaches are used in an endeavor to stimulate their interest in God's Word.

2 We try not to neglect any in our territory. With that in view, many field overseers find it helpful periodically to review the territory record form (S-13), making a notation of territories that have not been worked for the longest period of time. Then, when you request territory they can readily let you know which territories are most in need of coverage.

3 It is reported that, in some places, prior to the circuit overseer's visit a request is made that *all* territories be turned in even if they are not completely worked. Is that really necessary? It would mean that none of the publishers would have territory in which to work. However, every time you cover a territory, it would be appreciated if you would notify the brother who cares for the territory records so that these will be up-to-date and will provide a meaningful record of the work that is being done and that needs to be done in the congregation's territory.

4 Have you had a territory out for more than four months and not been able to complete it? Then why not ask the book study conductor to arrange for some publishers to help you to complete the territory? Thus the people living there will not be deprived of the opportunity to hear the good news regularly.

5 Thorough territory coverage is important, as you know. Therefore, before turning a territory back in, it is beneficial to make an effort to contact all who were not at home. If your congregation is covering its territory every month or so, then give particular attention to trying to contact persons who were not at home on the initial call, making repeated efforts on various days. One sister makes a note of the name and address where older magazines are left at not-at-home calls and then when she gets home that same day she calls the person on the telephone. Possibly you, too, would get good results by doing things in this way.

6 Have you held the same territory for quite some time? There is benefit in having the same person work a territory a number of times. But it is also true that one publisher may succeed in presenting the good news to a person who was not willing to listen to others. Realizing that, after you have worked it once, or possibly several times, you may want to let other publishers have that territory so that the persons who live there will benefit from their different approaches and presentations.

7 Our interest is certainly not merely in seeing how often we can cover the territory. Lives are involved. And as people hear and embrace the truth, there is increased praise to Jehovah. So, work closely together to care well for the part of the field that has been entrusted to the care of your congregation.

Announcements

◆ Are you an elder or a ministerial servant? During this service year, have you taken time to read the entire *Organization* book to refresh your mind on the many details that it contains? We encourage you to do that.

◆ Literature Offer for June: *New World Translation*, with *Peace and Security* book, for $1.25. For July: *Peace and Security* book, for 25c. For August: *Truth* book, or other pocket-sized publication, for 25c.

◆ Congregation accounts should be audited during June; the presiding overseer should make arrangements for this.

◆ Many inquiries have been received regarding special pioneer service. Generally speaking, the opportunities for enrollment as a special pioneer are few. However, there may be a need for some replacements from time to time. There are still many places, however, where regular pioneer help is much needed.

◆ New Publications Available:
Listening to the Great Teacher —Cebuano, Chishona
Life Everlasting—in Freedom of the Sons of God —Chishona
"This Good News of the Kingdom" —Yapese
When All Nations Collide, Head On, with God —Cinyanja
Tract #1: *What Do Jehovah's Witnesses Believe?* —Ronga

◆ Again Available in U.S.A.:
"This Good News of the Kingdom" —Hungarian

◆ Out of Stock in U.S.A.:
"Look! I Am Making All Things New" —Vietnamese
Watch Tower Publications Index, 1961-1965, also *1966-1970* —English
The Watchtower bound volumes for 1973 —English, Spanish
Awake! bound volumes for 1973 —English, Spanish

MARCH SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	622	149.8	62.7	5.6	160.4
Pios.	20,104	101.2	39.3	3.3	105.0
Temp. Pios.	13,638	81.0	25.0	1.5	86.6
Pubs.	473,317	10.7	5.0	.5	15.4
TOTAL	507,681				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 7,539

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

Showing Consideration

1 Would you want someone to leave a visible sign that you are not at home in these days when burglars are watching for opportunities to ransack homes? We are sure you would not. So it is well, as we participate in the field service and leave handbills or older magazines at doors when people are not at home, to be sure that they are completely out of the view of passersby, if at all possible. If the handbill or magazine is slipped inside a screen or storm door, then, of course, you will want to be sure that the door is properly closed when you leave. If it is not possible to leave a magazine out of sight, then you may deem it best simply to leave a handbill in some unobtrusive spot, if possible slipping it under the door.—Matt. 7:12.

2 It should be borne in mind, too, that any article that is placed in a *receptacle* that is identified as being for "U.S. Mail" should have postage on it. So do not use mailboxes in this way. However, if there is a slot in the door through which an article can be pushed (but behind which there is no receptacle), there is no objection to leaving a tract or a handbill or a sample magazine in this way.

3 If you decide to send literature through the mail to someone who has shown interest or to a householder whom you are having difficulty in finding at home, please be certain that you have enough postage on it and show your own name and address as the sender. Do *not* show the Society's return address for items that you mail personally.

4 Considerately handling matters in these ways will leave a more favorable impression with those upon whom we call.

KINGDOM HALLS

Many congregations are enjoying the pleasure of being in new Kingdom Halls or in enlarged or improved facilities. In the past 38 months in the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii), 839 congregations have either constructed new Kingdom Halls or purchased and remodeled existing buildings. Another 1,139 congregations have engaged in remodeling projects, enlarging or improving existing Kingdom Halls. Some have increased the seating areas, some have added rooms for additional Theocratic Ministry School classes, some have increased parking facilities, and so forth, in an effort to accommodate the increased numbers attending meetings. This is fine and

(*Continued on page 4, col. 1*)

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

Where There Is No Ready Response

1 What can be done to terminate a call tastefully when you discern that the householder definitely is not interested? (Prov. 15:23; 25:11) Should continued efforts be put forth to stimulate interest or to place literature until the door is forcibly closed, or would it be better for you to terminate the call, respecting the householder's wishes at the time?—Eccl. 3:7.

2 Discerning publishers know there is a difference between offering the Kingdom message in a clear and understandable way, letting the householder then decide what his response will be, and trying to force the message on someone, using pressure methods such as worldly salesmen employ. Jehovah does not force anyone to worship him but rather lets each one choose whom he will serve. (Josh. 24:15) If we have clearly presented matters so the householder knows what is being offered to him and he then indicates he is not interested, there is satisfaction in knowing we have done our best to give a clear and understandable presentation, isn't there?

3 When a person declines the literature offered or a home Bible study, there is no need now to view him as an "enemy." People can change, as we know. We can still be friendly, possibly saying: "I'm glad we could talk for a few minutes. Maybe we can visit again for a few minutes the next time I call."

4 What is accomplished by doing things in this way? The householder, for one thing, should be impressed with the fact that you have considered his viewpoint, respected his right to decide personally in such important matters. Possibly by the reasonableness shown in your yielding instead of pushing matters to the point where he gets irritated and feels the need forcibly to terminate the call, he will be more inclined to listen on subsequent calls made in the future.

5 Where it is not possible even to get a brief discussion started because the householder says he is busy we could kindly acknowledge his objection, possibly commenting, "Getting enough time to care for all the many things we want to do is an increasing problem, isn't it?" and offer a handbill, suggesting, "When you have a few minutes you may want to consider the thought on the back of this handbill (mention whatever it is briefly) and maybe we can talk about it the next time I call."

6 It could be that the person was really busy, but in many cases people say this so as not to get involved in a lengthy discussion, which may have happened previously when a Witness or a worldly salesman called. Or he may feel that his best defense is not even to let you get started. As a result of your understanding response and consideration he may even indicate a willingness to continue the discussion right then. If so, use discernment in determining when to terminate the call.

7 Our following such suggestions does not mean that no effort is put forth to handle objections or that we are going to give up easily in our efforts to persuade individuals to accept the Kingdom message. (2 Cor. 5:20) Time and circumstances may determine a person's interest or response, so we are careful not to judge persons on the basis of their response to our presentation on a single call. But when we discern that a person's mind is closed we know there is no need to keep talking until the door is closed if this can be avoided. Rather, we can accomplish much good by using discernment in how we terminate calls where there is no real interest manifested.

Kingdom Halls *(Cont'd)*

it is good to see them expanding now. There may be even more congregations that have done something along this line.

It is a joy to see the increase that Jehovah is giving, and it is a pleasure to observe that the congregations are taking appropriate steps to accommodate the increase. What a congregation does in this regard is, of course, for the congregation to determine. If a congregation finds it necessary to go outside the congregation to finance such a project, the Society will be glad to entertain such inquiries and provide any information it can that may be helpful.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ The West Valley Congregation in Phoenix, Arizona, reports 88 publishers and 37 regular pioneers in the field. All 4 of the elders and 9 of the 11 ministerial servants are pioneering.

◆ More than one quarter of the 22,500 publishers in Japan began field service in the past year. Japan has reached its 80th successive peak in publishers. There were also new peaks in March for special pioneers, regular pioneers, temporary pioneers, hours, return visits and studies.

◆ Subscriptions obtained in Korea are up 105 percent for the first three months of the campaign as compared with last year. New peak of 22,956 publishers is a 33.5-percent increase over last year's average.

◆ Thailand reports their 6th peak in a row with 536 publishers. Already 88 baptized this service year to compare with 45 last year. Two circuit assemblies, attended by 652.

◆ Over 1,000 more have been baptized in the first 7 months of the service year in the Philippines than were baptized during all of last year. Their 3rd successive peak, 69,411 publishers, was a 21-percent increase over last year's average.

◆ Indonesia reports their 10th successive peak—3,513 publishers for March.

◆ Hong Kong's circuit assembly was attended by 595, with 19 baptized. A new peak of 541 studies was reached—first time over the 500 mark.

◆ Jamaica's March report of 6,225 publishers is a 24-percent increase over last year's average and is a new peak.

Question Box

● What can be done when a householder verbally requests that no one call at his home, or there is a sign on the door saying that no salesmen or religious groups should call?

When we meet persons who are very much opposed and who request that we not call at their home again, we will respect their wishes in the matter. A dated note may be put in the territory envelope so no one will call in the future as long as the householder remains there. Of course, people do move, and at times some have a change of heart. If one is not certain about the householder's still living there, in time a tactful inquiry can be made. Decide locally what would be best in each case.

Where there are signs saying "No Peddlers or Solicitors," and so forth, it may be best to identify yourself as one of Jehovah's witnesses, taking the viewpoint that such signs do not apply to our work. Where signs specifically state that no religious calls be made or that Jehovah's witnesses not call, it may be well to talk personally to the householder, since the previous occupant may have put up the sign, or the householder may have had a change of heart. If the householder then verbally requests that we not call, matters may be handled as outlined above.

★ **Offer the Word of Life During June.** ★

Gin D!

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
JULY 1974 "Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18. VOL. XVII NO. 7

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

Good news! Reports now compiled show that in this country alone the attendance at the Memorial this year was 1,182,112. That is 135,766 more than last year—a 13-percent increase!

And the subscription campaign was excellent. You will be happy to hear that the number of new subscriptions obtained during the four-month campaign is up more than 33 percent over last year—a total of 683,193! By the way, have you also noticed the circulation figures for the magazines? They are now well above 8,000,000 copies for each issue of both *The Watchtower* and *Awake!*

We all enjoyed sharing in distribution of the "Government by God" tract during May, didn't we? It was a most timely subject. Already in the first few weeks the office here has received many hundreds of coupons requesting books and studies.

Other interesting news that we have heard at Bethel concerns Brother Henschel's latest zone visit to southern Europe and other countries bordering the Mediterranean. When passing through the Iberian peninsula he learned that pressure on our brothers in Portugal has let up, because the new government there has arrested the former secret police. He also heard that censorship of the mails was to be lifted and freedom of religion restored to the people in Portugal, who have long been under the domination of the Roman Catholic Church.

Spain hit a new peak of 24,820 publishers in April, but, Brother Henschel reports, in the same month there were 60,022 at the Memorial. Amazing, too, was the turnout when he spoke in Barcelona. With only a week's notice, and by special invitation only, 22,417 packed out the Monumental Bull Ring. Most of the imprisoned brothers have now been released, and for those that were present this assembly was a very special treat.

No national assembly was arranged in Italy either in connection with Brother Henschel's visit, yet when he spoke in Rome, 20,964 gathered to hear his report.

In this country the "Divine Purpose" District Assemblies begin in June. A wonderful spiritual feast has been prepared. Please don't miss it.

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Support Earth's New King

1 Christ is actively ruling as king. If it is his kingship that we support, there are opportunities every day to show that. After his resurrection and before ascending into heaven in 33 C.E., Christ Jesus entrusted to his disciples the field of interest that he had cultivated respecting God's Messianic kingdom. This field they could make productive by assisting interested ones to progress to Christian maturity. The wealth that Jesus wanted then was not gold and silver but more disciples. (Luke 19:16; Matt. 28:19, 20) Today, nineteen centuries later, the anointed remnant left on earth have the same privilege of thus working for earth's new King, Jesus Christ. And the "great crowd" of other sheep are extended the opportunity of assisting them in this grand work.—Rev. 7:9; Luke 19:11-27.

2 July will furnish excellent opportunities for showing our support of earth's new King by urging others to put their confidence in his rulership. To aid in this work, we will be offering the book *True Peace and Security—From What Source?* on a contribution of 25c. Other pocket-size publications can be carried along if desired and, in fact, some of the larger bound books can also be taken along in case people have the smaller publications. Bible studies can be started in any of these publications in which the householder shows interest.

3 July will be assembly month for many of us, and our attending along with others who believe in the Kingdom is a fine way to show our support for the King. The program will offer much that will allow us personally to be strengthened in a spiritual way. Also, our Christian conduct when we are traveling to and from these assemblies can attract honest-hearted ones to the King we serve.

4 If attending an assembly and going on vacation will take you away from your congregation during the latter part of July and the beginning of August, be sure to turn in a field service report before you leave home; the remainder of your activity for that month can be reported the following month. Or, if you prefer, take along report slips and the address of the field overseer, and send him your reports at the end of the month.

5 Young or old, male or female can share in the King's work. Summer is a time when the young ones usually have more time to serve. There is still time to temporary pioneer before school begins. Talk to your parents and then your presiding overseer if you have been thinking about it. The Bible counsels: "Remember, now, your Grand Creator in the days of your young manhood."—Eccl. 12:1.

6 Hundreds of thousands of persons have been streaming into Jehovah's visible organization in recent years, just as he indicated they would. Proverbs 14:28 says: "In the multitude of people there is an adornment of a king, but in the lack of population is the ruin of a high official." All of us take great pleasure in being an "adornment" to our King, Jesus Christ. It is a joy to have some share in making disciples of still others and, in doing so, showing our support for Christ as our King.

★ Increasing the Wealth of Earth's New King. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING JULY 14

12 min: Song 19. Introduction, text and comments. Include discussion of Branch Letter.

8 min: Accounts report. Include comments from May 1, 1974, "Watchtower" article, "Tenderly Compassionate—Like Our God."

15 min: "Support Earth's New King." Questions and answers. Include some experiences that publishers locally have enjoyed in offering and placing the "Peace and Security" book thus far this month or in previous campaigns.

15 min: Two Promises of Peace and Security. Sermon for use in presenting the "Peace and Security" book.

Chairman should point out that publishers may decide how they can best present this book in the territory. However, we will discuss and demonstrate a sermon that publishers might like to try. It can be made brief and simple if that is what the publisher prefers. Or, it can be lengthened, depending upon the householder's response. It fits the "Peace and Security" book. Can use scriptures with it or not, depending upon circumstances. Also, can use just one scripture or more, depending upon interest found. Publisher can decide where to pause to ask a question and draw the householder into the conversation. (Chairman: The above points are important. So, get them clearly in mind and make them stand out clearly in your introductory remarks.) Chairman should discuss with audience first the introduction; consider advantages of following the outlined thoughts closely, also whether any adjustments would be advantageous for local territory. Then consider with audience the body and conclusion of this Scriptural discussion. The information is taken from the "Peace and Security" book, Chapter 1, especially paragraphs 10 and 11.

Theme: **Two Promises of Peace and Security**

Good morning! My call will be brief, but I have an important message. The point is this: Today, in a time of real trouble, there are promises of peace and security. These promises come from two sources: First, from men—national leaders. Second, from God, through his Word, the Bible. These are the differences in the two promises:

1. Men promise **to reduce** arms by treaties.
   God says he will **remove the root cause** of war. (Isa. 2:2-4)
2. Men say they will **control** crime.
   God says he will **root out attitudes and conditions that start** crime. (Gal. 5:19-21)
3. Men promise **better care** for the sick and aged.
   God says he will **completely eliminate** sickness and problems of old age. (Rev. 21:3, 4)
4. Why believe God? For one thing, because his promises have never failed, whereas promises of men on these matters have failed to produce true peace and security. (Josh. 23:14)

People have the right to know these things. They are made clear in this book "True Peace and Security—From What Source?" We place it on a contribution of 25 cents.

(If you find a listening ear and feel that more could be said, read some of the scriptures; otherwise, just state the points, if possible, and offer the book. Use as many of the four points as you think best.)

Have capable, experienced publisher demonstrate thoroughly prepared sermon without the scriptures. Then have second such publisher give demonstration with some of the scriptures. Chairman concludes with appropriate comments.

10 min: Concluding comments. Local field service plans. Song 22.

WEEK STARTING JULY 21

12 min: Song 25. Introduction, text and comments. Include appropriate items from Announcements.

18 min: "Study—Important in Your Life." Question-and-answer discussion with audience.

15 min: "What Kind of a Wedding?" A talk, based on information in the article from the May 1, 1974, "Watchtower."

15 min: Concluding comments. Include thoughts from the article "How God's Spirit Can Help You," in the July 1, 1974, "Watchtower," emphasizing those parts that relate to field service. Song 34.

WEEK STARTING JULY 28

10 min: Song 35. Introduction, text and comments.

15 min: "The Music You Choose." Talk based on May 15, 1974, "Watchtower" article. Might be good to draw audience into the discussion to some extent.

20 min: "Presenting the Good News—What Prompts People to Listen?" Discuss with audience by means of questions and answers. After discussing each separate reason why some people might listen, chairman could take time to ask audience: "If this is true, then what is required on our part? How can we prepare ourselves and our presentations so as to improve and get more people to listen? Can you think of some scriptures that show the need to have these qualities mentioned?" Other like questions can be used in order to make application of points.

15 min: Concluding comments. Include some Theocratic News items. Song 41.

WEEK STARTING AUGUST 4

15 min: Song 43. Introduction, text and comments. Include Question Box.

20 min: "Social Gatherings." Discuss with audience by means of questions and answers. Read paragraphs.

10 min: "Dutifully Pursuing Peace in Jehovah's Way." A talk on theme for August. See "Watchtower" of June 1, 1973, pp. 330-335.

15 min: Concluding comments. Offer some helpful suggestions regarding presenting the "Truth" book in August. Of course, any other pocket-size book can be used too. Can carry larger books along also. Could continue to use same sermon as in July. Note how the thoughts in that discussion fit in with points made in Chapter 1 of "Truth" book. Paragraph 9 shows failure of man's rule. Paragraph 5 shows how God will eliminate sickness and death. Paragraph 6 shows why we can believe God's promises. Song 26.

Announcements

◆ With the August *Kingdom Ministry* there will be an insert. Please remove all of these from the copies of *Kingdom Ministry* before they are distributed to the congregation. Trim them neatly along the left-hand edge so as to separate pages 3 and 4 from pages 5 and 6. The first portion will be distributed to newly interested ones at the conclusion of the first meeting in September; the second portion will be distributed at the second service meeting in September, to those who are publishers.

◆ With the September issue of *Kingdom Ministry* the Society plans to provide details concerning a special series of public talks to be given in the congregations during November and December. To the extent possible, we recommend that they be scheduled on consecutive weeks until they have all been heard.

◆ It is requested that, on the next literature order for the congregation, presiding overseers order for each regular pioneer twelve monthly report cards.

◆ Literature offer for July: *True Peace and Security—From What Source?* for 25c. You may also carry other 25c publications or larger books in case householders have the smaller ones. For August: *The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life* or other pocket-size publication for 25c. For September: *Evolution* book for 25c.

◆ Beginning in September, circuit overseers will give the public talk "Into the New Order Under Christ's Leadership." District overseers will speak on the subject "What the Near Future Holds."

◆ New Publications Available:

Is the Bible Really the Word of God? —Slovenian

Listening to the Great Teacher —Afrikaans, Ibo, Iloko, Tagalog, Xhosa, Zulu

(*Continued on page 4, col. 1*)

APRIL SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	615	148.0	62.4	5.4	163.9
Pios.	20,506	102.7	39.6	3.2	109.4
Temp. Pios.	43,687	78.4	23.5	1.3	95.8
Pubs.	455,437	10.8	4.8	.5	15.6
TOTAL	520,245				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 4,609

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

MEMORIAL REPORT

	1974	1973
Total Memorial Attendance	1,182,112	1,046,346
Number of Partakers	4,707	4,720

HOW DID WE DO IN APRIL?

Total number of publishers is up more than 18 percent over last year's average. There were new peaks in regular and temporary pioneers. Altogether these publishers placed over 41 percent more subscriptions, 2,385,976 more magazines and conducted 24 percent more Bible studies than a year ago. How encouraging!

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Social Gatherings

1 Jehovah's people enjoy getting together. This is true of small groups, as in a family, and of larger assemblies. The Bible encourages us to do this, with a view to inciting one another to Christian love and fine works.—Heb. 10:24, 25.

2 It is not only at congregation meetings that we enjoy being together. At times, two or more family groups get together to do Bible reading or to prepare for the weekly *Watchtower* study. On occasion, they may also arrange to spend time together, not primarily for Bible study, but for relaxation and recreation. This, too, can be upbuilding. But, of course, when you plan such a gathering, it is not wise to make it larger than you can adequately supervise.

3 Occasionally we hear that brothers or sisters have rented facilities for dancing, skating and other socializing by Witnesses. The Society has received a number of letters from brothers who are disturbed over what they observe or hear is taking place. Are such arrangements proper?

4 It is not the business of the Society or the elders in the congregations to make rulings as to what individuals may or may not do in arranging social gatherings, although loving counsel by the elders is certainly appropriate.

5 It definitely is proper for Christians to be hospitable. (Rom. 12:13) But when arranging to entertain others, the size of the gathering is a factor to consider. Experience has shown that there can be pitfalls and problems in connection with large social gatherings. The one who is the host has a serious responsibility. He is accountable for what takes place at a gathering that is under his jurisdiction. At a get-together in one's own home it is not usually difficult to determine who will be present and what the activities will be. But problems along these lines may increase when there is a large group in a rented facility.

6 It is wise to know who you are welcoming as close associates. The disciple Jude wrote that there are some who, while professing to be fellow Christians, turn "the undeserved kindness of our God into an excuse for loose conduct." He warned against fleshly-minded persons who, he said, were like "rocks hidden below water in your love feasts while they feast with you, . . . wild waves of the sea that foam up their own causes for shame." (Jude 4, 12, 13) So it is good to be cautious.

7 Of course, it is not only what others may do that should be of concern to us. Our own conduct and any activities in which we might invite others to engage likewise deserve serious thought. At 1 Corinthians 10:31 the apostle Paul set out a principle that should guide us, saying: "Whether you are eating or drinking or doing anything else, do all things for God's glory." If we do this, there will be nothing about what we eat or drink or the way we do it that might stumble others. Our attire will be modest, as befits Christians. Our conversation will be wholesome—in sharp contrast with the foolish talking and obscene jesting of the world. And, if there is dancing, we certainly will not do it in a manner that might stimulate unclean desires. Are these things really true of your social activities?—Rom. 14:13, 21; 1 Tim. 2:9, 10; Eph. 5:3, 4.

8 As individuals, our needs as to recreation may vary. But is it wise to give it such prominence that one travels long distances, spending considerable money, in order to be in on every social event? And even of get-togethers that are close to home, if those who attend do not get home until late at night, how many will feel refreshed physically or stimulated spiritually for congregation meetings or field service the next morning?

9 There are times when congregations plan group travel for a tour of one of the Society's branch offices, or to an assembly, perhaps with stops along the way for a picnic or for sight-seeing. But, as for activities that are purely recreational, the congregations usually find it best to leave arrangements for such things to individuals. And, since the times for meetings are set by the congregation as a whole, they do not lightly set these aside when certain ones in their midst express a desire to arrange for an outing.

10 Spending time for relaxation has its proper place and can provide enjoyment and benefit. But our principal concern is to strengthen our brothers spiritually and to accomplish fully the urgent work of preaching and making disciples. To this end we need to give serious thought to using our time wisely.

Study—Important in Your Life

1 Newly interested ones continue to come into Jehovah's visible organization in great numbers. Thousands swell attendances at our Kingdom Halls; many of them soon start out in the field service and get baptized. It is indeed a thrill to see these increases take place and to see these new praisers of Jehovah become a part of the theocratic society. But this is only the beginning. Continued spiritual growth is necessary in order to be pleasing to Jehovah. What will help in this? For one thing, reading and studying must become an important part of one's life.

2 'But study, concentrating on what one is reading, is not easy,' some will say, and that is often true. Just what is it that has assisted many to be good students and to find joy in keeping right up-to-date with the truth as it is made clear through the "faithful and discreet slave"? Being *interested* in what one is doing is one of the most important factors.

3 Interest can fluctuate. However, there are things that we can do to keep interest in studying the truth at a high level. As the apostle Peter wrote, "Form a longing for the unadulterated milk belonging to the word." (1 Pet. 2:2) Such a "longing" can be cultivated. Be persistent in your prayers to God for knowledge, understanding and wisdom. Also, persevere in your personal efforts to acquire such through study. "Keep on knocking, and it will be opened to you," said Jesus.—Matt. 7:7; John 6:45.

4 Study means to set the mind upon a subject systematically to learn it for future use. What future use? For one thing, to help others. We are God's witnesses. Having a keen desire to remember so as to help others will stimulate us to study and we will retain the information longer. This means having an unselfish motive in study.

5 Field service stimulates interest in study. None of us have all the answers to questions that people might ask as we share in the field service. But how do you feel when you do not have a ready answer to a question asked by a householder? Do you feel an urge to do the necessary research so as to get the answer and, if possible, to return and share it with the householder?

6 Many of Jehovah's servants in times past set fine examples in applying themselves to learn God's will so as to do it more fully. The psalmist said: "How I do love your law! All day long it is my concern." (Ps. 119:97) Has that come to be true of you too?

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

What Prompts People to Listen?

1 What is it that, right from the start, attracts you to a certain person more than to others? Is it that person's friendliness? Undoubtedly that is a factor. And, no doubt, honest-hearted ones that we meet in our field service react similarly. Some brothers project this friendliness more readily than others. Their countenance easily brightens up into a warm smile that invites trust and confidence. Is it possible for you to be more friendly without being overly so, "sweetish" so to speak? The first impression is important and, undoubtedly, in many cases is what determines whether the householder will listen.

2 Some listen to us because it is obvious to them that we are interested in their welfare and have a sincere desire to help. We all have that desire or else we would not be calling on others. But to convey that feeling quickly to the householder we need to have it prominent in our own thoughts. Some brothers and sisters, though they cannot express themselves as well in the language of the country, readily convey to people their sincerity. At times, if one is too fluent or smooth, people are reminded of a fast-talking salesman and tend to get suspicious. And if we repeat the same introduction too often, we may begin to sound mechanical. But if we really feel sincere interest in the householder and speak from the heart, the heart of the householder can be more readily reached.

3 One way to show people that you are interested in them is to listen to what they say. This does not mean simply to stand politely silent while they speak. It means listening with sincere interest. Then you can comment intelligently on what they have said, showing that you are interested in their viewpoint and also understand it. This will aid you to witness with their viewpoint in mind. We have long been encouraged not to do all the talking but to ask questions so as to draw the householder into the conversation. Circuit and district overseers indicate that many publishers are doing this well, but they also observe that some could beneficially give more thought to this matter of really listening to the householder after asking a question.

4 Mostly, though, people listen because of what you say. What you speak is the good news of the Kingdom, and Christ Jesus said the sheep would hear his voice and respond. (John 10:4, 16) The subject you introduce attracts them. The thoughts you express have the ring of truth to them. You really believe what you are saying, so you speak with confidence and conviction. What you talk about is something that you clearly understand, thus what you say is understandable to others.

5 So there are various reasons why people listen to us at the door. Usually it is the message itself that attracts honest-hearted ones. But sometimes it is our friendliness, sometimes it is our interest in them and at times it might be something else that moves them to stay at the door long enough to hear what the message is. It is good to analyze what we do, to see if we can determine just why people listen on a certain occasion or why they do not. Then we can set about to make improvements or to strengthen certain qualities where this might be necessary. Not only will we be cultivating qualities that Jehovah wants to see in us, but we will be making ourselves better representatives of him in the preaching and teaching work.

Announcements *(Cont'd)*

Life Everlasting—in Freedom of the Sons of God —Ibo, Xhosa
Divine Rulership—the Only Hope for All Mankind —Cibemba, Cinyanja

◆ The regular edition of the *New World Translation* (bi12) is temporarily out of stock. We do have a limited supply of the pocket edition of the *New World Translation* (bi24), price $1.50, and these may be ordered.

◆ The Society has in stock some German Elberfelder Bibles; these may be obtained at $2.25 each.

◆ Please keep in mind that there is no pioneer rate or special campaign rate for publishers for renewal subscriptions. As to the pioneer rate for subscriptions, please see the *Watchtower Cost List*, paragraph 42.

◆ Correction: In the June 1974 *Kingdom Ministry* it was announced that Tract #1 was available in the Ronga language; it should have said Tract #8, *Life in God's New Order.*

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ The Belize branch reports passing 14,000 hours of field service for the first time.

◆ El Salvador reports that with 4,451 publishers they are now 56 percent ahead of last year's monthly average.

◆ The four-month subscription campaign in Venezuela ended with 5,796 subscriptions being obtained as compared to 4,729 during last year's campaign.

◆ Haiti's 2,901 publishers rejoiced to have 15,008 in attendance at the Memorial.

◆ Israel reports a 30-percent increase, with 226 publishers in April. They had peaks, not only in publishers, but in temporary pioneers, books, subscriptions, hours and return visits.

◆ Lebanon reports their seventh consecutive peak of publishers, with 1,701 sharing in service. Hours passed 40,000 mark for first time.

◆ New peak of 1,117 publishers in Sierra Leone. New peaks also in hours, Bible studies and temporary pioneers. In April, 26 percent of publishers in that country were in pioneer work.

◆ Philippines reports fourth consecutive peak of publishers (70,887). Over 4,000 regular pioneers for first time.

Question Box

● Are parents to count as time in the field service the hours that they devote to teaching and training their unbaptized children?

The responsibility of teaching children Jehovah's way requires much time and effort on the part of both parents. God-fearing parents should be alert to do this in various ways all day long. (Deut. 6:6, 7; Eph. 6:4) Whether the time used in this way shows up on a field service report or not has no bearing on the seriousness of the responsibility. There are many things that we do in connection with our service to God. Actually, very little of it is reported as field service.

However, the Society is interested in compiling a report of activity in the field service, service performed in carrying Bible truths to those of mankind who are not yet part of the Christian congregation. So what we report is largely our activity in preaching to the public, those who are not dedicated, baptized Witnesses.

However, in answer to many letters asking the question raised above, the Society has stated that, if a study is regularly scheduled and conducted with one's unbaptized children, just as we handle other home Bible studies in the field, then, if the parent desires to do so, the one who conducts the study may report one hour and one return visit a week, and one home Bible study for the month.

We believe that it is best to limit the reporting of activity in connection with teaching one's unbaptized children to that; otherwise the field service report of the congregation would soon not give much of an indication of what is being done about carrying the good news out to the public, the world of mankind.

★ "Pay Attention to How You Listen" at Assembly Time. ★

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUGUST 1974 "Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18. VOL. XVII NO. 8

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

For many months we all looked forward to this year's series of "Divine Purpose" District Assemblies and the privilege of attending one of them. Now, as this letter goes to press, the majority of us are looking back on this thrilling experience, calling to mind the many blessings we there received. If you have not yet attended, we earnestly urge you to do so.

Early reports show that, at the first 25 assemblies held in 17 states from coast to coast, there was a peak attendance of 325,542 with 8,468 being baptized.

Among the many interesting reports brought back from these assemblies was the news item that Brother Knorr related during his closing comments at Jacksonville, Florida. He told how the Society had just arranged to purchase a new Wood-Hoe rotary printing press, to be delivered next year.

This press, much bigger than any we have now, is 61 feet long and weighs about 42 tons. It is unique in that it has three large printing cylinders, each 70 inches wide and over 4 feet in diameter. The 70-inch-wide web of paper travels through the press at 1,000 feet a minute—over 11 miles of paper an hour! At this speed the cylinders make 75 revolutions per minute, and with each revolution they print 768 pages, the equivalent of FOUR 192-page books per revolution. That is 18,000 complete pocket-size books an hour—150,000 books during each day's regular shift! As they come off the press the pages are all collated and ready for sewing and binding.

You can just imagine how long and loud the Bethel family applauded at hearing this good news. We are sure you are just as eager as we are to see it in operation —a press capable of printing more than 40,000,000 books a year without overtime!

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Pursuing Peace in Jehovah's Way

539,262 Share in Field Activity

1 "Seek peace and pursue it." (1 Pet. 3:11) The need to act on this inspired admonition takes on ever-increasing urgency in this concluding period of the "last days." Only those who are at peace with Jehovah, conducting themselves in harmony with his commands, can hope to survive the fast-approaching "great tribulation." —2 Thess. 1:6-9; 2 Pet. 3:10-14.

2 Appreciating this, we rejoice in seeing thousands upon thousands responding to the "good news of peace" and taking steps to gain an approved standing before Jehovah God. (Acts 10:36) Many of these have progressed to the point of themselves sharing the "good news of peace" with others. Here, in the United States, during the month of May, 92,532 more persons participated in this vital work than did last May. That is marvelous indeed when we consider the changes many of them had to make in their way of life in order to represent Jehovah, the God of peace. A tremendous witness was given, over 40 million copies of *Kingdom News* No. 18 being distributed.

3 The thrilling increases in the ranks of Kingdom proclaimers are an indication that many more sincere people are yet to be found. And it is heartwarming to observe that Jehovah's people as a body are responding wholeheartedly to the need of such persons to become reconciled to God. Just think of it, of the 539,262 proclaimers of the "good news of peace," 20,745 were regular pioneers. This was the largest number of regular pioneers to date. Might you be able to arrange your circumstances to join these pioneers?

NOTICE!

The inserts are separate from the *Kingdom Ministrys.* These inserts are to be held by the overseer and not to be distributed until the special service meetings early in September.

4 During the month of August we will again have fine opportunities to aid others to seek peace. We can do so by distributing the *Truth* book, a publication that has certainly aided thousands to seek peace with Jehovah and, in fact, to continue pursuing it as his dedicated servants. Over 74 million copies of this publication have now been printed in 91 languages.

5 Even if you just recently started to proclaim the "good news of peace," perhaps sharing in distributing the tracts, you will find it a pleasure to use the *Truth* book to aid others. This is a publication that you have studied. You know what it contains and what things particularly impressed you. Your sincere, enthusiastic expression about what you learned may be just what is needed to reach the hearts of truth seekers.

6 Of course, if people are really going to be helped to become pursuers of peace, they need to be instructed in God's ways. It is encouraging, therefore, that now 37,000 more studies are being conducted on the average than last year. We surely want to be alert to every opportunity to start additional Bible studies. Some on whom you will be calling during the month of August may already have the *Truth* book. Why not help them to appreciate how beneficial it would be for them to have a Bible study in their home? Perhaps you could invite them to get their copy of the *Truth* book and then demonstrate the study method, using one or two paragraphs, if

(*Continued on page 8, col. 1*)

★ Dutifully Pursuing Peace in Jehovah's Way. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING AUGUST 11

12 min: Song 50. Introduction, text and comments, also Branch Letter.

3 min: Accounts report.

15 min: "Pursuing Peace in Jehovah's Way." Audience participation.

20 min: "Handling Family Problems Successfully." Discussion based on April 22, 1974, "Awake!" An elder might introduce this part, covering points on pages 3 to 5. Then several elders may continue discussion of pages 5 to 9 under "What Can a Wife Do?" Discussion should be on a positive note, highlighting scriptures and practical suggestions offered in article. Mention to congregation that April 22 "Awake!" will be discussed on next two service meetings.

10 min: Concluding comments. Discuss what can be done locally to encourage all interested persons to attend the special service meeting during the first week of September; be sure to notify all who attended the Memorial this past spring. Song 45.

WEEK STARTING AUGUST 18

10 min: Song 60. Introduction, text and comments, Announcements.

10 min: "Are You Conscious of It?" Question-and-answer discussion of article. Also Question Box, briefly.

15 min: Keeping in Touch with Brothers in Times of Pressure. Talk.

(2 min.) Always important for God's people to keep in touch with one another, but especially in times of pressure. Faithfulness under pressure provides witness. (Luke 21:12, 13)

(12 min.) We can benefit from the experiences of our brothers in China and Germany as recorded in "1974 Yearbook." (Cover as time allows.)

Consider the personal methods they used to keep in touch and to look after one another. ("yb," p. 52, par. 4; p. 139, par. 3)

Willingness to endanger life to keep in touch. ("yb," p. 52, pars. 1, 2; p. 162, par. 3)

In times of pressure do not neglect spiritual needs. ("yb," p. 54, par. 3; p. 139, par. 4)

Physical needs may need consideration also. ("yb," p. 176, par. 4; p. 207, par. 3)

(1 min.) Pressures continue to mount due to nationalism, health problems, opposition within family, economic stress, and we need to apply these principles. By helping one another to keep in touch now, we prepare for future pressures.—Gal. 6:10.

15 min: "Handling Family Problems Successfully." Discussion of pages 9 to 12 of April 22 "Awake!"—"What Husbands Can Do." Elders continue discussion from previous week, covering questions or problems that can arise in families.

10 min: Concluding comments. Discuss: Have all persons with whom we conduct studies, and all others who have attended any meetings in recent months, been invited to the special service meeting during the first week of September? Remind elders to read article "Elders' Meeting During Circuit Overseer's Visit." Song 44.

WEEK STARTING AUGUST 25

12 min: Song 63. Introduction, text and comments, also Theocratic News.

12 min: Discussion of "Presenting the Good News—Through Christian Conduct and Dress."

15 min: "Handling Family Problems Successfully." In response to their request, one or two elders call on family of publishers recently baptized. Parents are having problems with children in school and at home and do not have background in truth as yet to handle situation. Elders review with them points under "What Can We Do with Our Children?", pages 13 to 16 of April 22 "Awake!"

10 min: The "Evolution" Book—September's Offer.

(3 min.) Comment on value of book and ways it can be placed. (See August 1971 "Kingdom Ministry.")

(7 min.) Ask for suggestions from audience on how they have placed book or plan to present it this year, including some by children. (Have some comments planned in advance.) Include a brief demonstration of offer.

11 min: Concluding comments. Remind brothers that field service and Bible study reports for August should be turned in by Sunday. Outline any special arrangements for witnessing over holiday weekend. Encourage reminding all interested persons of special service meeting next week. Mention that a second special meeting will be held the following week; all who are already dedicated and baptized publishers are urged to make special effort to be present. Song 55.

WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 1

Special meeting for all newly interested ones.

25 min: Song 23. After the song, extend a warm welcome to all who are present. Then proceed directly with a discourse covering the material in paragraphs 1-7 of "A Letter from People Who Care," found in the "Kingdom Ministry" insert. Include scriptures, as time permits, possibly inviting some in the audience to read them. To be handled by one of the elders.

15 min: Base this portion on material found in paragraphs 1-4 under the heading "A Time for Action" in "A Letter from People Who Care." To be handled by qualified brother, an elder if possible. (1) Discuss value of having a home Bible study; explain that it is free of charge. Urge those who are studying to be regular to get full benefit, also to prepare in advance. (2) Bible shows that changes are needed in our lives in order to have an approved relationship with God. Encourage new ones not to let feeling of inability to make change hold them back. Appreciate loving help that Jehovah provides. Interview some now in congregation who at one time had personal problems or opposition that they thought they could not surmount but who did it so they could serve Jehovah; do this briefly. (3) Point out value of regular attendance at congregation meetings. Explain that no collections are ever taken; no dues; we are interested in helping people to know Jehovah and benefit from his loving provisions. Tell what meetings the congregation has, when and where. Mention subject of public talk for the week. If any have questions, urge them to speak to others present this evening.

15 min: Two elders have earnest discussion, using Bible and basing comments on material in paragraphs 5-9 under the heading "A Time for Action" in "A Letter from People Who Care." (1) Discuss why we engage in field service; how new ones are assisted to share. Help them to realize that no one is pushing them, but we are willing to help if they want to serve Jehovah. (2) From the Bible, discuss dedication and baptism. Point out its seriousness, but show that it is no guarantee of salvation. Emphasize seriousness of the times in which we live; need to act. Conclude with warm appeal to appreciate value of approved relationship with God.

5 min: Concluding comments by the elder who opened the meeting. Before the song, distribute to all unbaptized persons present who are at least ten years of age a copy of the special letter dated September 1. If you do not have enough, be sure that at least one copy is provided for each household. (After the meeting, any extra copies may be distributed, on the basis of one per household, to baptized publishers in the audience; if very few are available, be sure to put one on the information board.) Encourage new ones to take letter home, to read it carefully and to look up the scriptures. Help them to realize that, if they are really interested in being among those who will live in God's new order, now is the time to take action. Assure them of loving concern of congregation.

Announce special meeting for next week; tell newly interested ones that we welcome them to attend. Song 119.

WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 8

Special meeting for all dedicated, baptized publishers.

10 min: Song 8. After the song, extend a warm welcome to all who are present. Then proceed directly to cover, as introductory comments, the points in paragraphs 1-3 of the letter in the "Kingdom Ministry" insert "To All Dedicated Servants of Jehovah."

15 min: Two elders have earnest discussion, basing comments on material in insert under the heading "Discharging Our Responsibility Toward the World of Mankind." Study the material carefully, prepare well, so as to convey the balanced Scriptural view set out here, along with the note of urgency. Include brief comments on what the congregation as a whole did during the past service year. Show how the report, and the meeting attendance last week, indicate work yet to be done. Encourage publishers personally to speak to new ones who were present the preceding week, offering to be of help to them. In connection with some paragraphs, brief interviews or local experiences may emphasize what is being done locally or what local needs are.

25 min: Elder to cover as a discourse the material in insert under the heading "Preserving Fine Conduct." Invite audience to read some of the scriptures. Convey the seriousness of the matter, but handle in such a manner that the audience is built up, feeling encouraged to move ahead.

10 min: Discuss arrangements for field service for the coming week; encourage all to share to full extent that their circumstances permit; if any new ones desire to get started, encourage them to talk to one of the elders about it. Before the song, distribute to each dedicated and baptized publisher a copy of the letter "To All Dedicated Servants of Jehovah." Any extra copies may be distributed, on the basis of one per household, to others who are present. Song 66.

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To All Dedicated Servants of Jehovah

September 8, 1974

Dear Brothers:

Last week we had a thought-provoking special meeting with newly associated ones, did we not? Those who have shown interest in Jehovah and his grand purposes certainly were encouraged to think seriously and prayerfully about their standing with the Creator. Impressed upon them were the urgency of the times and the importance of their letting love for Jehovah move them to identify themselves on his side before the "great tribulation" strikes.

In view of the time, we, too, need to think seriously and prayerfully about our relationship with Jehovah God. It is not just a matter of looking forward with eager anticipation to the "great tribulation" and life in God's new order. Continued effort is required in proving ourselves to be Jehovah's devoted servants. The apostle Peter admonished: "Since you are awaiting these things, do your utmost to be found finally by him spotless and unblemished and in peace." —2 Pet. 3:14.

As a people, we are heeding the apostle's inspired counsel and are also aware of the need to continue making advancement in Christian living. But that is not necessarily the case with each individual professing to be a baptized disciple of Jesus Christ. So it is good for all of us, individually, to think seriously and prayerfully about what we are doing with our life in the concluding portion of the "last days." Were the "great tribulation" to begin tomorrow, what would our standing before Jehovah be?

Discharging Our Responsibility Toward the World of Mankind

Consider what you are doing in discharging your responsibility toward those who still are not approved servants of Jehovah. Their lives are in grave danger at the fast-approaching "great tribulation." Are you responding to their urgent need for help? Are your circumstances such that you could make adjustments in your routine of life to enable you to share to a greater extent in the vital warning and rescue work that will be ending soon?

This does not mean that you should be pushing yourself to the very limit, spending absolutely no time for relaxation. Even Jesus Christ saw to it that his disciples got needed rest and refreshment. (Mark 6:31, 32) But the way you spend your time should reveal that the dominant desire of your heart is to prove yourself to be a loyal 'fellow worker' of Jehovah God, that you are putting yourself in a position to be used to the full by him in opening the hearts of your fellowmen to accept the truth.—1 Cor. 3:9; Acts 16:14.

In some cases, might discussions within the family circle lead to some family member's having a fuller share in this final part of the preaching work? Perhaps by a pooling of resources and effort by family members, one of their number could serve as a regular pioneer or a temporary pioneer. Even if that were not possible because of family responsibilities, could such a combining of effort result in increased preaching and teaching as a family? Would this concluding period of the "last days" not be an appropriate time for intensified activity?

We do not want to have a charge of bloodguilt leveled against us because of having been indifferent to the critical situation of people in our territory. (Compare Ezekiel 3:17-19.) And this is not going to be the case with us *as a body.* Genuine love and concern for fellow humans will not allow us to render mere token service.

This is certainly no time to be distracted by a desire to get comfortably situated in the world or by undue anxiety over making a living. (Matt. 13:22; Luke 21:34, 35; 1 Tim. 6:9, 10; 1 John 2:15-17) Because of having been commissioned to preach and to make disciples, true Christians have always had to put secular pursuits in a secondary place, devoting to preaching and teaching the time and effort that could otherwise rightly have been used to further material interests. (Matt. 28:19, 20) Should this not, then, be particularly the case in this concluding portion of the "time of the end"?

Our keeping secular work in its place, as a means to sustain ourselves in God's service and to aid others in obtaining physical necessities, will protect us in the troublesome times that we will doubtless face in the near future. (Eph. 4:

28; 1 Tim. 6:6-8, 17-19) We may be called upon to share what little we have with brothers who may be in even greater need. Will we be eager and willing to do that?

Then, too, we have no assurance that any of our material possessions will survive the "great tribulation." Remember Lot. He lost his house and other material possessions and thereafter had to put up with the discomfort of living in a cave with his two daughters. (Gen. 19:2, 16, 24, 25, 30) We also may find things very uncomfortable for some time during and after the destruction of this ungodly system. Might our attaching undue importance to material things now cause us to complain then and contribute toward making things more unpleasant for us and others? (Compare Numbers 11:4-6, 10; 20: 3-5.) An even greater tragedy would be having heart appreciation for our relationship to Jehovah snuffed out by our being overly concerned about material possessions now and losing out on life, as did Lot's wife.—Gen. 19:26.

Preserving Fine Conduct

Remaining spotless and unblemished is not limited to our making wise use of time and assets in discharging our responsibility to preach. (Acts 20:26, 27) Our personal conduct is also involved. (Matt. 5:14-16) Are we striving, as the apostle Paul did, to keep sinful inclinations in check? (1 Cor. 9:27) Are we making progress in cultivating the fruitage of God's spirit? (Gal. 5:16-18, 22-24) Do we appreciate that enmity, contention, division and envy are just as bad in Jehovah's eyes as fornication, drunkenness and idolatry?—Gal. 5:19-21.

By far the majority of those dedicated to Jehovah God are preserving fine Christian conduct in a world that is rapidly becoming more degraded. We are also very much aware of our weaknesses, daily appealing to Jehovah for forgiveness of sin and striving hard to make improvement.—1 John 1:8-10.

But a few have allowed hatred to build up in their heart. They may refuse to speak to certain brothers and sisters, harboring grudges over minor offenses, real or imagined. They may ascribe bad motives to fellow believers, wrongly judging and condemning them. They may even carry on slanderous talk.—Gal. 5:13-15, 25, 26; Jas. 3:5-16; 4:11, 12.

Still others may try to get as close to the world's ways as possible. They want to show worldlings that we, too, can have "fun." Such action may reveal itself in immodest dancing, heavy drinking and the like.—1 Pet. 4:1-5.

What does examination of your conduct indicate? If you see areas wherein you could make improvement and you really want to do so, you have reason to be happy. Why? Because it shows that your heart is responding properly, motivating you in the right direction. On the other hand, you may recognize that your heart has set its affections on things other than spiritual interests. Or, you may have difficulty in getting along peacefully with others. In that case, you will want to work hard to adjust your thinking so that your situation does not worsen and the "great tribulation" find you spotted, blemished and at disunity with Jehovah God and his people.

What we have as Jehovah's servants is something too precious to sacrifice now when we are so close to the realization of our hope—life in God's righteous new order. Would it not be foolish to allow ourselves to yield to temptation and to become practicers of sin? Would it not be tragic to lose out on life due to the pursuit of temporary material riches, compromise under pressure from the world, or developing an indifferent attitude toward the lifesaving preaching and disciple-making work?

Even now we enjoy rich rewards from serving Jehovah. We have true friends who really care about us. While we still have problems, our situation is far better than it was before we knew the truth. The wisdom contained in the Bible has enabled us to cope much better with the problems of life. Obedience to God's Word has enabled us to get along better within the family and in our daily contacts with others. Has this not made life more pleasant for us? Really, what better way is there to live than as a devoted servant of Jehovah God? This in itself is something to guard jealously, along with the prospect of an eternity of life in the fast-approaching New Order.—Mark 10:29, 30.

Make it your solemn determination to do your utmost to be found by Jehovah God "spotless and unblemished and in peace." Exert yourself in helping others to gain salvation while there is yet time. Let your whole course of life testify to the fact that you are convinced that your relationship to Jehovah is the most important thing in your life. Live each day as if it were your last. If you do this, you can rest assured that no matter when the "great tribulation" strikes, you will not be caught unprepared and fall but will continue standing as an approved servant of Jehovah.—Rev. 7:14-17.

Your fellow servants,

Watchtower B. & T. Society
OF NEW YORK, INC.

Are You Conscious of It?

[1] Of what? Of the importance of being on time in all your activities! Are you at the Kingdom Hall before the meetings start? Are you early enough at meetings to greet other brothers and interested persons warmly when they come, and to care for other responsibilities? Do you punctually keep your appointments? If you do, then you are a punctual person. Punctuality is a mark of loving consideration and thoughtfulness. It is an evidence of order in your life and is deeply appreciated by those with whom you associate.

[2] One way that a Christian can show his thoughtfulness is by being punctual for spiritual meals with the congregation. This shows respect for our Host, Jehovah God, and for his arrangements. What happens when we are even a few minutes late? Premeeting fellowship is missed. Also, we miss the opportunity to unite with our brothers in joyful singing that extols Jehovah's name, tells of his wonderful works and encourages to faithfulness. We miss the grand and uplifting privilege of approaching Jehovah in prayer as a congregation of his people. Missing the first few minutes of a meeting is like picking up an article to read and starting with the fourth paragraph—we miss the setting, the introduction, and so our overall understanding and enjoyment of it are lessened. And if we are late in arriving at a meeting, not only do we miss vital information, we also distract our brothers who are on time, so they do not receive the full benefit of the program.

[3] It is true that there may be times when, despite our care, we are late in arriving at a meeting. Public transportation may be delayed, or one's own car may break down. A person who comes from a religiously divided household, or a mother who has small children to bring with her, may encounter unanticipated problems just when it is time to leave the house. If possible, rather than missing the whole meeting, it would be better to persevere and get to the hall to benefit from as much of the meeting as possible. Others in the congregation will understand; they too have unexpected problems in their lives. But in those cases where the circumstances are ones that we can control, let's be sure that lack of good planning or indifference does not cause us to be persons who are frequent latecomers.

[4] What an encouraging thing it is to the brothers to come to the meeting and find the elders and ministerial servants there ahead of time, waiting to greet them warmly and to welcome them! It fills us with a warm feeling for our brothers and deep appreciation for the theocratic family of which we are a part. So if you are an elder or a ministerial servant, keep in mind the wholesome example you can be by arriving early for the meetings.

[5] Punctuality is also important when meeting for field service! If just six minutes are lost by ten publishers gathered for field service, in waiting for a tardy brother, it means one hour of field service lost that day.

[6] Our work of making disciples requires punctuality on our part. When we are punctual, this instills confidence on the part of newly interested ones in the organization we represent. By being on time we demonstrate that we are persons of our word, letting our *"Yes"* mean "Yes," and our *"No"* mean "No."—Matt. 5:37.

[7] Yes, it is wholesome to be conscious of the value of punctuality—how it affects us, what it says about our attitude toward others. What we do influences the lives of other people.

Announcements

◆ Literature offer for August: *The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life,* or other pocket-size book, for 25c. For September: *Evolution* book, for 25c, or other small or large book. For October: *Awake!* subscription, with three booklets.

◆ The October 8 issue of *Awake!* and the October 15 issue of *The Watchtower* will be special issues. Be sure to order early the extra copies you will need.

◆ Each congregation will receive two Literature Inventory forms and should take an actual count of campaign literature at the end of August. Please do not include cash items such as the *Aid* book, the large-print Bible (bi8) and the *Concordance* in value of campaign literature in stock. We would appreciate your filling out the forms and returning the original to us no later than September 6. Keep the duplicate copy.

◆ The elders in each congregation should arrange to meet together early in September. Any recommendations for new appointments should then be sent to the Society using the S-2 form. Presiding overseers should send in their report for the service year on the S-10 form at the same time, also the new S-9 form regarding elders to attend the Kingdom Ministry School. All these forms are being sent to congregations with the July literature statement. (See *Organization* book, page 67, and August 1973 *Kingdom Ministry.*)

◆ It is requested that, on the next literature order for the congregation, presiding overseers order twelve monthly Congregation Report cards and other forms needed for the 1975 service year.

(*Continued on page 8, col. 2*)

Elders' Meeting During Circuit Overseer's Visit

[1] Some questions have arisen as to the circuit overseer's role in connection with the elders' meeting. This meeting should be just as carefully and thoughtfully planned by the presiding overseer, who acts as chairman of such meeting, as the regular elders' meetings held quarterly. If the visit coincides with the time for one of the quarterly meetings, or is near that time, the presiding overseer may deem it appropriate to combine these into one meeting.

[2] The *Organization* book, pages 82 to 86, deals with the circuit overseer's visit with the congregation, including this special meeting. On pages 64 to 67, it also shows the need to prepare properly for these important meetings. The book mentions a number of matters that beneficially could be considered, but there are undoubtedly other matters that the local body of elders realize need attention, and each elder should let the chairman know, orally or in writing, well in advance of the meeting, if possible, what items he believes deserve discussion. Based thereon, the chairman should prepare a schedule, allowing time for each subject, and planning for a meeting that will not be unduly long.

[3] The circuit overseer, based on his review of the condition of the congregation with the presiding overseer on his arrival, may also suggest questions for discussion at the meeting. Also, if the meeting is near the close of his visit, since he will have had opportunity to observe the condition of the congregation and may have some additional valuable suggestions to make, the chairman can ask him to mention these.

[4] Generally the circuit overseer has many years of experience in Jehovah's organization. And since he, as a specially appointed traveling elder, spends much time in such meetings in different congregations, he is in position to pass on to the elders helpful examples and things learned. So the elders should avail themselves of his experience.—Rom. 1:12.

MAY SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	617	148.4	55.5	5.1	126.6
Pios.	20,745	101.5	34.9	3.1	81.8
Temp. Pios.	15,730	81.1	21.7	1.4	64.0
Pubs.	502,170	11.9	4.2	.5	11.1
TOTAL	539,262				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 7,542

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

Through Christian Conduct and Dress

[1] As representatives of Jehovah, his Christian witnesses are often in the public view. We are a people very closely observed by the world in general, and most persons in the world readily recognize that Jehovah's witnesses are different. But what makes us different?

[2] We are different because we have separated ourselves from the world. We no longer indulge in its "works of the flesh." (Gal. 5:19-21) We do not share the materialistic ambitions and unchristian jesting so popular with this old system. Rather, our outlook is spiritual—at least it should be. And as spiritual men and women we should seek never to be identified with the old world in any way—whether by appearance, dress, speech or conduct.

[3] In all these things we should always reflect Christian modesty and separateness from the old system. Most brothers and sisters therefore consider very carefully what clothing they will wear when going into the field service, making sure that it is well arranged, modest according to Bible standards, and not ignoring what is viewed as appropriate according to local custom. (1 Tim. 2:9, 10; 1 Cor. 2:12) Also they are careful to see that what they wear is *clean* and *neat* and that their book bags are in good condition. In this way their appearance will not detract from the message they bear.

[4] Our conduct is very important, too. Of course, there is a time and place for recreation and other things besides field service, but when engaging in the field service our conduct should be exemplary. The preaching of the good news is serious work. We reflect joy in our work, but if we were joking and making a lot of unnecessary noise when going from house to house, people might not take seriously what we say; at least they would feel we certainly were not serious about our work as Christians.

[5] Oftentimes, we have opportunities to do informal witnessing. But have you ever found that you held back from giving a helpful witness to someone, perhaps because you felt that your conduct and appearance at the time did not recommend you as one of Jehovah's witnesses? This is something to consider, isn't it? We are servants of Jehovah *all the time,* not just a few hours each month. And people observe what we do *all the time,* not just when we are in the field service. Whether shopping, going to and from work, attending a wedding or a reception, going to school or in other daily activities, we are observed. Yes, people have their eyes on Jehovah's servants. If our dress at times when we are not in the field service were immodest or in imitation of some worldly fad, do you think that people who observe us would be inclined to accept us as genuine Christians when we called on them to discuss the Bible?

[6] Therefore it is good to remember at all times who we are—Jehovah's Christian witnesses. Let us help people to realize that we are *real* Christians, separated from this old system, not only by what we preach but also by good appearance and fine conduct at all times. —1 Pet. 2:12.

Pursuing Peace (*Cont'd*)

time permits. Others may have discontinued their studies due to vacation periods. Might special efforts to call on them result in renewing such studies?

[7] May the month of August find us putting forth zealous efforts in aiding others to seek peace with Jehovah. At the same time may we continue to pursue peace ourselves, demonstrating in our attitude, words and actions that we are fully devoted to Jehovah and his righteous ways.

Announcements (*Cont'd*)

◆ New Publications Available:
New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures —French
Bible —Vietnamese

◆ Out of Stock in U.S.A.:
From Paradise Lost to Paradise Regained —Thai

◆ The permanent addresses for receiving literature, magazines and Society mail should *not be changed* to correspond with the rotation of the elders and ministerial servants.

◆ If you still have at home copies of *Kingdom News* that were not distributed during the campaign, we encourage you to make good use of them. When householders do not accept other literature, hand them one of these tracts.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ The Woodland Congregation in Cleveland, Ohio, with 76 publishers had 66 temporary pioneers in April!

◆ Brazil's magazine placements rose 65 percent over the same period last year, 888,598 being placed in one month!

◆ Publishers baptized in Canada so far this service year reached 3,658—65 percent ahead of last year's pace.

◆ The second floor of Ecuador's branch addition has been poured. Pillars are being erected; roof to be put on soon.

◆ Indonesia has 12th consecutive peak, with 3,602 reporting service in May.

◆ Finland's publishers go over 13,000 (13,042)—13 percent ahead of last May.

◆ Ghana has 5th consecutive publisher peak, with 19,095 reporting.

Question Box

- What factors determine when congregation meetings will be held?

While there is no set pattern of meeting times to be adhered to, **why** we have our meetings at a certain time is in some respects more important than **when** they are held. Some questions for the congregation to consider in regard to meeting times are: How many other congregations must use the same Kingdom Hall, so, what choice of times is available? At what times will new ones most likely attend? What are the work and school schedules locally? What is our motive in wanting meetings at a certain time? Are we willing to put some personal preference aside so as to benefit the congregation as a whole?

Consider what the apostle Paul said: "All things are lawful; but not all things are advantageous. All things are lawful; but not all things build up. Let each one keep seeking, not his own advantage, but that of the other person." (1 Cor. 10:23, 24) In harmony with this principle, the elders, when considering possible meeting times to recommend to the congregation, might ask themselves: Will such an arrangement prove advantageous spiritually to the congregation and to new ones, aiding them to be present for the meetings? Will such a schedule really aid us to put Kingdom interests first, or, rather, will Kingdom interests be neglected?

After considering the factors involved and the recommendations of the elders, it is up to each congregation to decide their meeting times locally. As outlined in the "Organization" book, page 103, par. 3, the congregation would "choose times that are convenient for the majority of the members of the congregation." Those whose schedules conflict with meeting times are pleased to make adjustments so as not to neglect their spiritual interests. If several congregations meet in the same Kingdom Hall, then meeting times will have to be worked out between them in a loving, Christian way.

The time for congregation book studies within a congregation may vary according to the circumstances of those who make up a book study group.

★ In All Things Recommend Yourself as a Witness for Jehovah. ★

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SEPTEMBER 1974 "Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18. VOL. XVII NO. 9

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

With the end of August comes the end of another service year, and what a wonderful year it has been! A year with the greatest Memorial attendance ever; a year when the greatest number were baptized. Think of it, more were baptized in the United States in 1974 than in all the world a mere seven years ago!

Capping off the year and making it complete was the delightful series of "Divine Purpose" District Assemblies. They will long be remembered for the two new releases, *God's "Eternal Purpose" Now Triumphing for Man's Good* and *Is This Life All There Is?*

Have you finished reading these exciting new publications? If not, we urge you to do so without delay. Don't put this off until the material is covered in the series of public talks that are to be given. The information these books contain you need to know now.

And don't wait either until the special campaigns later this year before letting your friends, neighbors and relatives get copies of these new books. Why not carry a copy or two of each wherever you go—to work, out shopping, when visiting friends? And you children, in starting back to school, why not take copies to your teachers? This way it will be easy to explain where you went this summer and why you enjoyed the assembly.

Now we are starting a new service year, and one that holds promise of being an exciting one. Before we get around to distributing *Kingdom News* No. 19 we will have a big magazine month, October. The special October 8 issue of *Awake!* deals with the question "Does God Care?" In these troubled times this is an issue you will certainly enjoy distributing. Tell the brother handling the magazines in your congregation now how many extra copies you want. You'll be sorry if you run out.

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Fine Opportunities Ahead for the 1975 Service Year

[1] As we enter the new service year, we have a feeling of keen anticipation. We are well aware that we are now nearly sixty years into the "conclusion of the system of things," and that the time remaining is short. None of us know exactly when the "great tribulation" will strike, but we have full confidence that it will come at precisely the time fixed in advance by Jehovah.—Hab. 2:3; Matt. 24:36.

[2] But before that time arrives, we have work to do—lots of it! This is evident from the numbers of interested persons that show up at our Kingdom Halls. It is shown in reports that during the past year, in one country after another, record numbers of persons presented themselves for baptism as dedicated servants of Jehovah. It is also evident from the number of persons who accept our literature when we call at their homes, and from the worldwide increase in the number of home Bible studies. There is every indication that many more persons will yet come out of darkness into God's wonderful light.—Isa. 60:11, 12, 22; compare 1 Peter 2:9.

[3] How can we help them? Regularity in the field service will aid us to keep in constant touch with those who are willing to open their hearts to the good news. And when we locate persons who give evidence of sincere longing for the truth, let's keep in close touch with them, answering their questions and aiding them to see the grand purpose that Jehovah has for mankind. Right from the start, urge them to attend meetings at the Kingdom Hall. There is no time to lose.—Compare Genesis 19:15-17.

[4] No doubt many who attend the special service meeting during the first week of September will also be grateful for your further assistance. Some may need a personal Bible study. Others may be ready for aid in learning how to share in the field service. Certain ones who have known the truth for many years may have problems in their lives that are holding them back from dedication and baptism. Perhaps the elders can help them. Whatever the need, these persons have some interest in the truth. This interest, in some cases only a spark of it, may be fanned into a flame by a personal visit and by the sincere interest we display. Our own depth of love for Jehovah, and the sense of urgency that we feel, may help to infuse in them a desire to move ahead.

[5] While we are busy aiding newly interested ones, we need to be careful not to overlook the needs of those who are already our brothers and sisters. (Gal. 6:10) Among them are tens of thousands who, during the past year, have been baptized. There are still many matters in which they would no doubt be grateful for assistance. It would be beneficial for the elders to visit them as they are able to do so. Other publishers, too, can be of help by sharing interesting points that they learn, also by inviting newer publishers to go with them in the field service and by personally helping them to learn how to enjoy activities in which they may not yet be sharing. Aid them to grow in appreciation of the fact that everything that they do in life has a bearing on their relationship with Jehovah, and that the greatest joy comes from the doing of Jehovah's will.—Compare Philippians 1:25.

[6] As you share zealously in the work of preaching and teaching in the days ahead, keep alert, too, to the importance of strong bonds

(*Continued on page 7, col. 1*)

★ Gaining Victory, like Christ, over the World. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 15

15 min: Song 48. Introduction, text and comments. Family group discusses use of "Evolution" book during September. Consider how recent public statements on this subject make it timely to offer the book. Explain how placement of this book relates to building up faith in God and his purpose. Discuss where and how to offer the book.

3 min: Accounts report.

12 min: Taking It to Heart. Last week we had a special service meeting for all dedicated, baptized publishers. What did we do with the letter after we got home? Have we read it? Did we look up the scriptures? Ask audience: What points in that letter, and in our program last week, did you find to be specially significant? (Have some publishers ready to comment extemporaneously on this; invite others to comment too.)

20 min: "Fine Opportunities Ahead for the 1975 Service Year." Question-and-answer discussion. Read scriptures as time permits.

10 min: Concluding comments. Include comments on Branch Letter. Encourage all elders to read the article "Recommendations to the Governing Body." Song 51.

WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 22

12 min: Song 46. Introduction, text and comments, and appropriate Announcements.

15 min: "How Do You React to Apathy?" Talk using material from article in July 15, 1974, "Watchtower." Have audience share by looking up and commenting on some scriptures discussed in article.

18 min: "Does God Care?" (Suggested sermon for October in presenting "Awake!" subscription offer.) After each point of sermon is discussed by chairman with audience, interrupt discussion to demonstrate how this point can be used in building coherent sermon. Sermon should not be involved but simple, meaningful and very brief —one that each publisher would feel qualified to use or adapt for his use.

"I'm calling briefly to discuss a question that seems to be on the minds of good people everywhere. They wonder, 'Does God really care about man?' Will God tolerate injustice and human suffering forever, or will he intervene sometime in the future and bring an end to war, corruption, suffering and other bad conditions? I'm sure you have thought about this, too, haven't you? [Allow for comment.]

"In reading the Bible we see that God long ago promised better conditions for man, but several thousand years have gone by since some of these prophecies were written down. The question presents itself then, If God does care, why does he not bring an end to these bad conditions? Is there some reason why he has not done so before now? Yes, the Bible gives us the answer to these questions. For example, look here at 2 Peter 3:9, where the apostle tells us: [Read scripture.].

"The next few verses show that 'Jehovah's day' will come, at which time this old system of things with its oppressive rule and inadequacies will be destroyed as if by fire. This will prepare the way for God's new system of things. Note his promise on this at verse 13: [Read scripture.].

"Yes, righteousness is to dwell in the earth when God's heavenly government removes wicked conditions. But this subject raises other questions, too, doesn't it? When will this occur? And how can we share in the blessings personally? These and related questions are answered from the Bible in this special issue of 'Awake!' We are inviting everyone to subscribe. The cost for one year, with 24 copies coming to you, is $1.50. With the subscription I will be happy to leave this special issue of 'Awake!' "

Chairman can explain that publishers can further simplify the sermon if desired by using just one scripture text, either verse 9 or verse 13, and then lead into the "Awake!" subscription offer. When a subscription is not accepted, offer the special "Awake!" and "Watchtower" for 10c.

Even after the subscription campaign, you may on occasion want to use this sermon, and then you can offer one of the 25c publications such as the "Truth" book, the "Evolution" book or the "Peace and Security" book, all of which have chapters dealing with why God has allowed wickedness and how it will be eliminated.

15 min: Concluding comments. Include remarks showing how, like Christ, we can gain victory over the world. (John 16:33) Song 49.

WEEK STARTING SEPTEMBER 29

12 min: Song 58. Introduction, text and comments, and Theocratic News items.

15 min: Discussion of that part of "Presenting the Good News" dealing with the special "Awake!" Discuss with audience choice points that might be used in presenting this special issue. Audience can make suggestions as to how points in articles can be adapted to local territory needs.

15 min: "Living Amid Turmoil in Ireland." Talk based on article in September 1, 1974, "Watchtower." Ask audience how knowledge of faithful example of brothers in Ireland will help us when faced with community pressure to join violent groups. How can we carry on our preaching work in times of violence and distrust? How is a Christian's being no part of the world a protection?

18 min: Concluding comments. Include appropriate points on need for all to have the evangelizing spirit and to grow in effectiveness in preaching the good news. (See w74 6/1 pp. 335-340.) Many new ones joined us in proclaiming good news during past several years. Commendable that they have shared in tract and magazine distribution. Many are also giving effective sermons. Some still need help. What can be done to help them take the next step in presenting the good news with effectiveness? Perhaps they can now give a one-scripture sermon and present the "Awake!" subscription offer. (Demonstrate how to do this.) Some may wish help to make a return visit in an effort to start a Bible study. Experienced publishers, be sure to lend a helping hand. Song 57.

WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 6

10 min: Song 63. Introduction, text and comments, also Question Box.

12 min: "Teaching at Congregation Book Studies." Question-and-answer discussion.

12 min: Reaching Those to Whom Particular Articles Might Appeal. Chairman selects copies of magazines during past few months containing articles that might particularly appeal to groups or individuals in congregation's territory. He will offer suggestions and get comments from audience on what they found effective. For example, the article on "women's liberation" in the 7/1/74 "Watchtower" may have been of special interest to some they knew. The increased interest in the occult and exorcism might have opened the way for presenting the 6/1/74 issue dealing with the occult, or the 7/15/74 issue, which discussed under "Questions from Readers" whether Christians have the power today to exorcise demons. Often "Awake!" articles on world affairs, various trades and skills, features of a country, and so forth, will appeal to professional people and others in the territory. When articles are read, think of those among friends, workmates and relatives who might enjoy and benefit from them. Ask for experiences in using the magazines in this way. Also comment on use of October 15, 1974, "Watchtower." See "Presenting the Good News," paragraphs 6-8.

15 min: "True Christians Cannot Be Cowards." Talk based on article in 9/1/74 issue of "The Watchtower."

11 min: Concluding comments. One or two brief, encouraging experiences. (Select in advance.) Song 54.

Announcements

- Literature offer for September: The *Evolution* book, for 25c, will be featured. Other 25c books may also be offered. October: *Awake!* subscription and 3 booklets, for $1.50, or double subscription with 6 booklets, for $3.00. November: *God's "Eternal Purpose,"* for 25c.

- Congregation accounts should be audited soon after September 1.

- After the body of elders has determined who will be the new presiding overseer, field overseer, Bible study overseer, etc., with due regard for the rotation system, announcement should be made to the congregation. However, if the elders have in mind using a brother who is newly being recommended to the governing body for appointment as an elder, they will wait until he is appointed before giving him any definite assignment of oversight. (See *or* book, pages 67-69, 72.)

- New presiding overseers should not request that congregation mail be sent to them, if mail is already going to a different permanent address. A change should not be requested unless the one receiving it is planning to move or is otherwise unable to give proper attention to delivery. The mail should be delivered as soon as possible, especially if sent airmail or special delivery, or if mail is received for traveling representatives of the Society.

- New Publications Available:

God's "Eternal Purpose" Now Triumphing for Man's Good	—English
Is This Life All There Is?	—English
Human Plans Failing as God's Purpose Succeeds	—English
"Singing and Accompanying Yourselves with Music in Your Hearts"	—Tagalog
Sermon Outlines	—Romanian
Divine Rulership—The Only Hope of All Mankind	—Italian

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Benefits from Our "Double" Blessing of New Books

Regarding Job's blessings following his difficult test, Job 42:10 says: "And Jehovah began to give in addition all that had been Job's, in double amount."

Does not the expression "double amount" bring to mind great blessings for Job, even as the account goes on to describe? But think of the "double" blessing in the form of new pocket-size books that we received at the recent district assembly. We were delighted at the release of *Is This Life All There Is?* (*ts*) and looked forward to reading it ourselves and using it in the field service. Yet then our joy at the assembly was more than "doubled" when we got *God's "Eternal Purpose" Now Triumphing for Man's Good* (*po*) and learned that we will be studying it in the congregation book studies starting in December. What blessings!

Special Talks

We also learned that during November and December we will have a series of special talks based on these new books. Many of us know from experience in past years how beneficial it is to cover new books quickly by means of such talks. It aids us rapidly to become familiar with their contents, or serves as a fine review if we have already read them. However, additional benefits will be ours in this case. We will be placing the *"Eternal Purpose"* book in the field service in November, and the *This Life* book along with the *New World Translation* during December. Hence, will not our covering the books in these talks stimulate our enthusiasm to share the publications with others? And will not this coverage also familiarize us with their contents so we can effectively present them to others?

True, you may not be one of the speakers handling these talks. By all means, though, plan to read ahead of time the chapters to be covered. Make the talks a part of your conversation. Enthusiastically invite your relatives and interested persons. Make sure they have personal copies of the books so they can follow along during the talks, just as you will be doing. Thus all will benefit fully.

Scheduling

As announced in the July *Kingdom Ministry,* if possible, the talks should be arranged for the nine weekends of November and December. The first five talks will be based on the *"Eternal Purpose"* book, followed by four from *Is This Life All There Is?* If the circuit overseer's visit or a circuit assembly comes during that period, the series of talks should be arranged around these events.

In some cases the elders (and certain ministerial servants) of a congregation will be able to handle all of the talks. If that does not seem possible or advisable, two congregations can exchange speakers who are elders, dividing the talks between the two. When this is the arrangement, an elder will give his talk in both congregations. This may involve one congregation's having each talk a week after the same talk was given in the other congregation. But in working out the schedule, the nine talks should come in their proper sequence. As soon as details have been completed, handbills should be ordered. And the congregation should be informed exactly when they can expect the talks.

Speaker's Preparation and Delivery

If you are to give one of the talks, thoroughly study the chapters assigned to you and the corresponding outline that follows. Note that you are not merely covering material—you are to give an informative talk on a specific theme. Instead of trying to present every detail of the chapters assigned to you, strive to convey the main ideas highlighted in the outline. Be conscious of your audience, working to involve them; reason with them and motivate them. You may want to refer the audience to key passages or illustrations in the book so they can actually follow along in the book, becoming more familiar with its contents. Thus you will be multiplying the benefits.

1. Coming to Know the God of Purpose (*po* chapters 1-4)

Happily persons of all sorts are coming to know God. (5 min.) In our midst are persons from many backgrounds and religions. Many formerly had no true concept of God and his purpose for man. (P. 5) Some who became spirit-anointed Christians had been like that, but came to know and be known by God. Similar with some here. (Gal. 4:8, 9; pp. 6, 7) Are you progressively coming to know God better? Is it affecting you for good?

Come to know Him as an eternal God of purpose. (20 min.) We should know him as everlasting, for he is eternal. (Ps. 90:2-4; p. 7) He thus can have eternal purpose. (Eph. 3:10, 11; p. 13) Even his name should reveal that to us. (Pp. 14-16) Really to *know* Him involves more; we need to appreciate his reliability in carrying out his will. If we do, can confidently build our lives around his purposes. God's reliability was shown by his determined will regarding Assyrian Empire. (Isa. 14:24-27; pp. 18, 19) His "counsel" or decrees stand. Do we appreciate what this means regarding wicked of our day? (Prov. 16:3, 4; pp. 17, 18, ¶¶22, 23; p. 23, ¶34) It should strengthen our confidence in certainty of his prophecies. Are we, with confidence in God's counsel, bringing lives into harmony with his good purpose? (Ps. 33:9-12; pp. 24, 25)

Mankind was created to harmonize with God's purpose. (15 min.) God purposed to become a Father, and first produced spirits. (Pp. 26, 27) Angels interested in carrying out his will and helping us be holy. (P. 31) Creation of man reflects God's loving interest. (Ps. 103:13, 14; pp. 33, 34) Proved He is loving provider. (Pp. 35, 41) Made man perfect, and placed him in Paradise with a purpose. (Gen. 2:7, 8, 15; pp. 37, 40) Had prospect of eternal life. (P. 43) Death would come only from disobedience. (P. 44, read ¶33; p. 62, ¶25)

Choose to harmonize your life with God's purpose. (15 min.) Man and woman were not created aimless, but in accord with His purpose. (P. 45) Stated purpose was good for man, to lead to an earth-wide paradise. (Gen. 1:27, 28; pp. 48, 49) Angels rejoiced in progress of God's purpose. (P. 51) Goal was earth fully populated with happy worshipers by end of seventh "day." (Read ¶18.) That day continues, so we can enter into God's rest in spiritual way; will we? (Pp. 52, 53, read ¶24.) Are we choosing to serve God, to harmonize our life with all we know of him? We can be sure his purpose will succeed; will we? Our eternal salvation and happiness depend on it. (P. 25, ¶40)

2. God's Purpose Sustained in the Face of Rebellion (*po* chapters 5-7)

Do you believe rebellion against God can succeed? (5 min.) Rebellion is common. Sometimes on personal basis, as student against teacher. Often on national basis. Usually stern efforts are employed to deal with rebels. (Prov. 17:11) But some succeed —North American colonies against England. Could rebellion against God succeed? How would rebellion affect God's purposes? How much confidence do you have in God's accomplishing his purposes?

His purpose continued despite rebellion in heaven and on earth. (15 min.) Original purpose was to populate earth with true worshipers. (P. 61, ¶21) God did not desire man to die. (Ezek. 18:23; pp. 54, 55) Through serpent, an unseen spirit led Eve to rebel. (P. 57, read ¶11.) She followed course of that rebellious spirit. (P. 59, ¶16) In face of rebellion, did God abandon purpose? No. God's sustaining of His purpose evident in allowing Adam and Eve to procreate. (Gen. 3:16) Reinforced it by forming purpose to have anointed one who would crush Rebel. (Gen. 3:14, 15; pp. 59-61; p. 64, ¶29)

Examples of those who cooperated with God's purpose. (20 min.) Since first humans rebelled, how could God produce "seed"? Bible focuses on His doing so. (P. 65, ¶2) Did death of Abel thwart God's purpose? No. Used Seth. (P. 66) Enoch stuck to God and his purpose even in face of danger to life. Would we? (Pp. 68-70, read ¶15.) Noah walked with God for centuries, not quitting. Do we show patient obedience? (Gen. 6:9, 10; p. 71) Finally God brought Flood to cut short wickedness; showed he was in control. (Pp. 72, 73) By preserving Noah and family, God also preserved line of "seed." (P. 75, ¶29; p. 77, read ¶35.) Wicked spirits still active. (P. 78, ¶38) Rebellion did not defeat God's purpose; faithful ones stuck to it. (Pp. 79, 80)

History of "seed's" line shows purpose was sustained. (15 min.) Could Satan thwart purpose by preventing "seed's" appearance? (P. 81, ¶1) Line was through Shem; blessing was in accord with Shem's respect for God's dealing. (P. 83) Centuries later God promised "seed" through Abraham. (Gen. 12:1-3; p. 85) Isaac's birth gave assurance God could produce "seed." (Gen. 3:15; p. 87, ¶15) Melchizedek blessed Abraham; prefigured coming kingly "seed." (Pp. 88, 89) Because of faith, Abraham was God's "friend." (Isa. 41:8; p. 90)

Will we, like Enoch, Noah and Abraham, be patient and loyal, confident that nothing thwarts God's purpose? (P. 80)

3. A Nation's Role in Developing God's "Eternal Purpose" (*po* chapters 8-10)

God can irresistibly use a nation. (5 min.) Nations now strive for power and full independence; have strong armies, powerful weapons. But does any nation have God's approval, being used to accomplish His purpose? Could any nation resist his will? Answers affect our view of life and how we use it. Nebuchadnezzar was forced to acknowledge correct conclusion. (Dan. 4:34, 35) God's ability to choose irresistibly to use a nation is seen in Bible record.

God himself would do choosing in working out purpose. (15 min.) Had made covenant to bring "seed" through Abraham's descendants. (Gen. 12:1-3, 7) In selecting one of Isaac's sons, God was not bound by right of firstborn. (Pp. 93, 94, read ¶4.) Choice of Jacob explains why Bible focuses on his line. (P. 95) Through which son would Messiah come? Again, God adapted to circumstances; selected Judah. (Pp. 96, 97, 100) Royal leadership not bound to firstborn. (1 Chron. 5:1, 2; p. 101) Bible record aids in following progress of purpose; of interest, as our future is involved.

God chose a nation. (20 min.) Before giving Abraham's descendants Promised Land, allowed time for nation to grow. (Gen. 15:18-21; p. 104) Proves He acts according to his schedule. (Pp. 105, 106) Would use Moses as mediator of covenant, but Moses had to wait on God. (P. 107, ¶11) Opposition of powerful Egypt could not stop purpose. (Pp. 108, 109) Through mediator, nation indicated willingness to be in covenant. (Ex. 24:6-8; p. 113) If they kept Law flawlessly, could gain life. They could not; neither could we, showing need for "seed." (Lev. 18:5; pp. 117, 118) Still, nation with Law was used in leading to "seed" and so developing purpose. (P. 116)

From this nation God chose line of kings leading to "seed." (15 min.) God allowed time for nation to be guided by judges. (Pp. 120-122) Saul of tribe of Benjamin selected as king. Was God abandoning stated will about Judah? No. When Saul went bad, God chose David of Judah. (1 Sam. 13:13, 14; p. 123) After being selected, David waited on God to become ruler of whole nation. (P. 124) God covenanted with him for dynasty of kings. (2 Sam. 7:12-16; pp. 126-128) End of human kings of David's line did not stop God's purpose; line still led to Jesus and everlasting Kingdom.

Evident that God can do what he wants with individuals or nations. (Job 34:29) Do we follow his leading of a unified people today? Confidence that he is working out his purpose leads to blessings.

4. The Messiah of God's "Eternal Purpose" (*po* chapters 11, 12)

Will you accept opportunities for life open to you? (10 min.) Sane person, if given opportunity to enjoy a rich and rewarding life, will accept. When Israel given choice between life and death, chose correctly. (Deut. 30:19, 20; Josh. 24:15-18) Later had opportunity to identify and accept promised Messiah. Some accepted Jesus. Do we believe he is Messiah? Could we prove it? Does our life indicate we accept his leadership?

Heaven involved in appearance of Messiah of God's purpose. (25 min.) Coming of Anointed One was important in accomplishing God's purpose. (P. 64, ¶29) Long in advance God indicated time and place of Messiah's appearance. (Dan. 9:24-27; Mic. 5:2; pp. 130-134) Jesus' appearance thus is evidence he is Messiah. But in other ways heaven was involved, supporting Messiahship. Angels communicated with Mary and Joseph before His birth, highlighting role as king and Messianic sin-remover. (Luke 1:26-33; Matt. 1:20, 21; pp. 134, ¶10, 139, 142) Was of right lineage to be David's heir. (Pp. 135, 136, 142, ¶32) Child conceived was holy. (P.

137) By angelic action shepherds were eyewitnesses to birth, and child's life saved. (Pp. 140-143) Is also eyewitness testimony that God anointed Jesus. (P. 144) Questions remain: Did Jews accept Jesus? Do we?

Messiah's course fulfilled prophecy and gives us assurance for future. (20 min.) Messiah was to suffer, and be like Moses. (Isa. 53:7, 9, 12; Deut. 18:15, 18; pp. 146-148) Performed many miracles greater than Moses'. (Ex 7:2, 3; John 2:23; 3:1, 2; p. 149) Do we appreciate what his miracles indicate? Is Messiah. Also suggest what he can do in future—healing, raising dead. Do we believe that under his rulership people will not be sick, hungry, sad? As a prophet he foretold own death and many things we see happening today. (P. 150) His death as sacrifice important for God's "eternal purpose" to be accomplished. (Isa. 53:9, 12; pp. 152, 153) Raised as a spirit and able to present in heaven value of life that is vital for our eternal life. (Pp. 154, 155, read ¶¶22, 23.)

Even at time of death, Jesus had God's purpose of earthly Paradise in mind. (P. 152, ¶17) Now is ruling in heaven. Are we following his directions? (Heb. 5:8, 9; Matt. 24:14, 43, 44)

5. Are You Benefiting from the Triumph of God's Purpose? (*po* chapters 13-15)

Do you appreciate God's patience in working out purpose? (5 min.) All people are impatient at times; are we, regarding God's purpose? (P. 188, ¶3) Patient development of purpose allows us to benefit, learning of it and lining up with it. Dealings regarding complete "seed" show God wants humans to benefit. (2 Pet. 3:9)

God gradually developed purpose involving full "seed." (20 min.) Identity of "seed" and what it would accomplish was long a secret. Jesus came as Messiah and principal "seed," but more was involved. (Gen. 22:17, 18; p. 161, ¶12) God's purpose included an administration, his way of doing things that would result in a unification under Christ. (Pp. 156, 157) On Pentecost 33 C.E. Jesus began to build congregation, replacing natural Israel with spiritual "Israel of God." (Pp. 158-160) Spirit-anointed became part of Abraham's seed; Jews first. (Acts 3:24-26; p. 162) Later extended to Gentiles, ones formerly with "no hope." God's patience was thus great benefit to them. (Eph. 2:11, 12; p. 164) This settled "sacred secret." (Eph. 3:5, 6, 10-12; pp. 167, 168) Dealings verify God's wisdom and patience. We are in position to benefit. But will we?

Progressive purpose allows us to gain eternal life. (20 min.) Can be confident God's purpose will triumph, despite efforts to thwart it. (P. 169) No benefit to be gained from Christendom. (2 Pet. 2:1-3; pp. 170, 171, read ¶¶4, 5.) Live at crucial time since 1914. (Pp. 173-178) Anointed have not missed using opportunity to honor Jehovah, even took on Name. (P. 179) Is evidence purpose is triumphing. (P. 180) Since "all nations"—not just spiritual Israel—blessed, we can uphold, benefit from purpose. (Pp. 181-184) "Tribulation" ahead, so may be problems and inconvenience for ones loyal to purpose, but "great crowd" will survive. (P. 185)

Must decide now what you will do. (10 min.) Full accomplishment of purpose will bring great joy. Dead will benefit through resurrection. (Pp. 187, 188) Satan and other rebels will not benefit; be destroyed. Are we now proving we are not of that kind? Congregation involved in God's "eternal purpose." (Eph. 3:10, 11) Are we loyally working with it? Prepares us to benefit from Kingdom during Millennium. Will you rejoice forever in triumph of God's "eternal purpose"? (P. 191)

6. Mankind—Created to Live, Not to Die (*ts* chapters 1-5)

It is reasonable that humans should live longer. (7 min.) We love life; do not want it to end. Much Bible counsel based on our love of life. (1 Pet. 3:10; Prov. 3:1, 2) We associate life with learning, enjoying, experiencing. Does not seem reasonable that man should have such short life. (Discuss briefly illustrations on pages 4 and 24.)

Death affects lives and thinking of persons earth wide. (15 min.) Most religions are death-oriented. Often person's efforts in life molded by realization of death. (Pp. 5, 6) Common to hear people use expressions that reflect widespread belief in fate. Bible does not support view that life-span is set by fate. (Pp. 9-12, draw attention to illustration.) Since death seems inevitable, many people live for the moment. (1 Cor. 15:32; pp. 13, 14) Even believers in Bible do well to reflect on meaning of death, and how are using life. (Eccl. 7:1-4; pp. 15, 16) Bible acknowledges fundamental questions about life and death that we need answered. (P. 8, read ¶3.)

Man was made to live. (8 min.) Man's physical makeup and concept of eternity indicate he was made to live; death is unnatural. (Eccl. 3:10, 11; pp. 17-22) Then, why does he die? (Pp. 23-26)

How death came about. (10 min.) Myths of many peoples reflect idea that death resulted from disobedience. (Pp. 27-29) Bible shows man was created with prospect of life, with death resulting only from disobedience. (Pp. 30-33, discuss p. 32; Gen 2:16, 17) Sin brought death, which spread to Adam's descendants. (Rom. 5:12; pp. 34, 35) But does something survive?

The whole "soul" dies. (15 min.) Many pagans and others believe man has immortal soul. (Pp. 35-37) Bible, though, indicates that humans and animals are souls, breathers. (Gen. 2:7; 1 Cor. 15:45; Deut. 24:7; pp. 37-41, discuss p. 40.) One can lose his life as a soul. (Gen. 35:18; pp. 42, 43) Idea of immortal soul is of pagan origin, likely stemming from ancient Babel. (Pp. 43-45) Since Bible does not uphold this false teaching, is it sensible to be part of organization that does? Creator wants you to live; made you to do so. Why not learn what Bible says about how we can? (Acts 13:48)

7. Can Spirits of the Dead Affect Your Life? (*ts* chapters 6-10)

Ideas about life after death affect many people. (5 min.) People around us reflect belief in life after death. Many believe conscious spirit leaves body at death, perhaps going to heaven, hell or purgatory. Some fear such spirits, trying to drive them away. Others attempt to communicate with them. Because certain things seem familiar, some wonder if they lived before birth. Does Bible give guidance? It should, being God's Word. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17)

No conscious spirit survives death of body. (20 min.) Bible says dead are unconscious. (Ps. 146:4; Eccl. 9:5, 10; p. 73, ¶2) Does Bible support view that conscious spirit leaves body at death? Let us consider: Ecclesiastes 12:7 is said to teach this, but "spirit" is invisible life-force. (Ps. 104:29; Eccl.

3:19; pp. 47-49) Can in some ways be compared to electricity. (Pp. 50, 51, discuss illustration.) "Returns" to God in sense that he has authority over it. (Luke 23:46; pp. 52, 53) How about thoughts of having lived before? (Read p. 53, ¶¶4, 5.) Familiarity does not prove rebirth, which is contrary to Bible. (P. 54) What about John 9:2? Does not conflict. (Pp. 59, 60)

Living need not try to help dead nor fear them. (10 min.) Efforts to appease dead sometimes reflected in funeral practices. (Pp. 60-63) Church teaching of purgatory based on tradition, not Bible; runs contrary to Scriptures. (Matt. 15:6-9; 6:7, 8; pp. 64-69, call attention to illustrations.) Avoiding cemeteries, using juju priest, etc.,—evidence fear of spirits of dead. (Pp. 69-73) Bible helps us to have correct view. (Eccl. 9:6)

Avoid "talking with dead" and similar unscriptural practices. (20 min.) Some seem to be able to contact dead; how? Did King Saul contact dead Samuel? (1 Sam. 28:12-15; pp. 74, 75, note illustration on p. 77.) Jehovah would not have approved or permitted such to occur. (Lev. 19:31; pp. 76, 77) What is source of such voices? Similar to experience of Eve. (Gen. 3:1-6) Jesus showed lying source was Satan. (John 8:44; pp. 79-81) Other spirit creatures joined Satan, becoming demons; now in "Tartarus." (Gen. 6:1-4; pp. 83-85) We must be on guard against their efforts to contact and influence humans. (P. 86, read ¶¶1, 2.) Bible advises us to avoid spiritistic practices. (Lev. 20:27; pp. 87, 88)

Do not live in constant fear of dead or demons. Fear God; serve him, with eternal life in view. (Rev. 14:7; 21:8, 3, 4)

8. Would a God of Love Torment Souls? (*ts* chapters 11-15)

See God for what he is—loving, merciful, kind. (5 min.) Bible abundantly testifies to God's mercy, kindness, love. (Ps. 103:8, 13, 14) We can recognize this from good things he provides for all, even ones ignoring him. (Acts 14:17) Some teachings, even ones claimed to be from Bible, present distorted, untrue picture of God. Need to clear up these matters and have correct view.

God's Word does not teach torment in fiery hell. (25 min.) Earlier talks in series proved dead are not conscious, man has no immortal soul but is a soul; God retains power to resurrect faithful. Yet many, including pagans, teach punishment in fiery hell. (Pp. 88-91, call attention to illustrations.) What does Bible refer to as "hell"? Hebrew *sheʼohlʹ* and Greek *haiʹdes,* sometimes translated "hell," refer to place of dead, mankind's common grave. (Ps. 16:10; Acts 2:30, 31; pp. 91-95) Harmonizes with fact that God sets as penalty death, not torment. (Deut. 30:19, 20; p. 93) Doctrine of hell of torment probably comes from Greek and Roman ideas. (P. 96, read ¶3.) It slanders God. (Pp. 96, 97) How, then, can we understand Luke 16:19-31? (Read passage and call attention to illustration on pp. 100, 101.) Clergy view is illogical. (Prov. 30:8; pp. 101, 102) "Rich man" and "Lazarus" are figurative. (Matt. 23:5-7; 21:31, 32; pp. 102, 103) Their "death" is change in situation. (Rom. 7:2, 4; p. 106) "Rich man" class tormented by Christian message. (Acts 5:33; pp. 107, 108) This Scriptural view does not malign God.

Just God punishes unreformable ones with destruction. (17 min.) Reasonable that a just God would punish unreformably wicked, but in accord with his qualities; excludes eternal suffering. View borne out by Bible's comments about Gehenna; based on total destruction of refuse. (Mark 9:43-48; 2 Chron. 28:1, 3; 2 Ki. 23:10; pp. 110-115) Symbol of everlasting destruction. (P. 115, read ¶3.) Persons and things thus destroyed are spoken of as being tormented forever. (Rev. 20:10; pp. 117-119) Means being confined under reproach forever. (Matt. 18:34, *margin;* p. 120, ¶2) This is consistent with other Bible indications of God's personality. (Deut. 25:4; Lam. 3:32, 33; pp. 123, 124)

God of love will conquer man's enemies, including death. (8 min.) Promises to destroy even death. (1 Cor. 15:26; pp. 125, 126) Will do so by means of Son, now a powerful spirit in heaven. (P. 129) Christ will have associate rulers in heaven. (Rom. 16:20) Can look forward to their rule, for it will be in harmony with God's qualities—love, mercy, kindness. (Matt. 20:25-27; pp. 132)

9. An Earth Free from Sickness and Death—Near at Hand! (*ts* chapters 16-21)

Reasons for praising God! (5 min.) Is a joy when our children, relatives or friends are grateful for things we do. Have reason for gratitude to God for what he has and will do. Does it move us to praise and serve him? (Isa. 12:4, 5) Consider future blessings:

Right before us, an earth free of sickness and death. (25 min.) Are familiar with Revelation 21:3, 4, but how accomplished and what will it mean? Will be ample food. (Pp. 134-137; Isa. 25:6) Jesus will heal sickness, gradually or instantaneously, as need may be. (Isa. 25:8; pp. 137-139) Can be confident he and associate rulers will deal sympathetically. (Heb. 4:15, 16; pp. 140, 141) Endless life free from sickness will not be boring; much to learn and do. (Pp. 144-148) Endless opportunities to express love. (Pp. 149, 150, read p. 150, ¶2.) Is "near at hand" since we are at threshold of New Order. Dream of "tree" in Daniel chapter 4 gives prophetic indication of time for Kingdom's establishment. (Pp. 152, 153) Signifies period of 2,520 years. (Very briefly call attention to pp. 155-162; note illustration, and read ¶4 on p. 162.) End of wicked system to come in this "generation." (Matt. 24:34; p. 163) Does prospect of never dying, but of gaining blessings of New Order, move us to praise God?

Even billions of dead will have opportunity to praise God. (20 min.) For Isaiah 65:17 to prove true in New Order, dead must be raised. (Pp. 166, 167) Past resurrections show it can be accomplished. (Acts 17:31; pp. 167-169) God unquestionably is able to resurrect dead. (Pp. 171-173; Ps. 139:16) This should help us dispel fear of violent death. (Heb. 2:14; pp. 174, 175) All details as to arrangements for resurrected are not now needed. (Pp. 176, 177) Bible does say resurrected ones will not marry. Death now ends marriage, and survivors free to remarry if they choose; is a kindness that God has told us this. (Pp. 178-180) Bible indicates that some will not be raised, emphasizing importance of maintaining loyalty now. (Pp. 181, 182) Some resurrected ones will not pursue righteousness, which should admonish us now to do so. (Pp. 185, 186)

We can have more than this life—will we? (5 min.) God's promises should draw us close to him; time left is short. (Zeph. 2:2, 3; p. 187) Avoid shortsighted view of life, and reflect daily your gratitude to and love for Creator.

Recommendations to the Governing Body

1 The elder arrangement has been functioning in a fine manner in the congregations as in apostolic days. That Jehovah's blessing has been richly upon it is indicated by the unity among the elders, ministerial servants and publishers, and also the increases that continue to take place. We do enjoy our increased spiritual prosperity! So that further improvements might be made in the arrangement here are some suggestions that undoubtedly will benefit the elders.

2 When elders or ministerial servants move, the committee should notify the governing body of this departure so that the names can be deleted from our records for that congregation. When deletions are recommended for other reasons, then the committee, writing for the body of elders, should send complete and specific reasons for the recommendation. For example, a brother may request that he be removed, doing this for personal reasons. Of course, in such a case the elders should discuss the matter with the brother. Is he really disqualified Scripturally? Or is it simply that there are circumstances that hinder him from doing as much as he would like? Can the elders be of any help? If, after this discussion, he still feels he should be deleted, then the governing body should be notified, with sufficient information given so that the reasons are made clear.

3 In recommending other deletions, the Scriptural requirement that the brother fails to meet should be specified and then information as to what he has done, or failed to do, to warrant deletion ought to be given. (1 Tim. 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9) Sometimes a letter recommending deletion simply says it is because the brother now devotes little time to the field service. This really is not sufficient information. The Bible does not specify a certain minimum hour requirement or specify certain times or manner of spreading the good news in order to qualify as an elder. It is certainly to be hoped that all elders and ministerial servants will do whatever they can to aid the congregation to have a large share in the Kingdom proclamation. But individual circumstances vary and each one must do what he feels he can, as his faith and love move him.

4 When a brother's field activity shows some decrease or he misses some meetings, rather than recommend his deletion as an elder or ministerial servant, the elders should consider his circumstances. Possibly his health or that of some member of his family has not been good. It could be that he is on a different shift in his secular work or has a new job. He might have debts that he must care for and so is working overtime temporarily, though not being materialistic in this. Or maybe he has been discouraged or spiritually low for a time and would benefit from some encouragement. Of course, if he were to downgrade or minimize to others the importance of the witness work or of the meetings, this could be serious. But simply that his activity is not equal to that of some others would not in itself be a basis for his removal.

5 Sometimes letters recommending deletion are received stating it is because of "improper conduct." Here, too, it would be good to provide further information. What did he do? Was he really involved in serious wrongdoing requiring reproof with a restricting of privileges? Or possibly he just made a mistake, using poor judgment on an occasion, with the congregation still having respect for him and confidence in him as an elder or ministerial servant. Maybe the matter has not become widely known, if at all. If he appreciates that what he did was not wise, has learned a good lesson from the experience and has a good attitude, wanting to improve, then he might be retained. These thoughts will help the body of elders to get a full and balanced view of the matter and then they will be able to report fully in their letter, setting forth their recommendations.

6 All of us appreciate very much the excellent work being done by the elders and ministerial servants as a whole in our congregations. Following these suggestions will make for a more smoothly operating organization as we work together in Jehovah's service.

Fine Opportunities *(Cont'd)*

of love among all of us who are serving Jehovah. As the apostle Peter wrote: "The end of all things has drawn close. . . . Above all things, have intense love for one another." (1 Pet. 4:7, 8) If we do this, rich blessings will be ours during this new service year.

Teaching at Congregation Book Studies

1 Whether we have been studying the Bible for a few years or many, our knowledge and appreciation continue to grow. The congregation book study has certainly played its part in our spiritual growth. There are times when our discussions center on very deep spiritual matters, which Jehovah has provided in his Word for the encouragement and upbuilding of his people. Are you finding greater delight in the deeper things of the Bible than you did in the past? A positive view of "solid food," coupled with determination to make it our own, will contribute much to continued spiritual advancement.—Heb. 5:11–6:1.

2 The book study conductor can, of course, do much in seeing to it that those in his group get the most from the spiritual food. It should be his desire to help all in attendance to progress. To this end, he does well not to dwell too long on a paragraph, trying to draw out comments on *everything* in each sentence. Those studying will make more progress if there is a reasonable amount of coverage of the book at each study. They will be aided thereby to get a better overall picture of what is being taught, and will avoid drawing wrong conclusions because of treating secondary details as if they were the main points.

3 The best way to ensure a good, effective book study is for the conductor, first, to study the lesson and to have clearly in mind the main points therein. He can also select appropriate scriptures to be read. (If he does not know the answer to a question, he might do

(Continued on page 8, col. 2)

JUNE SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	571	137.1	52.9	4.9	140.6
Pios.	20,337	91.2	33.1	3.0	87.5
Temp. Pios.	10,388	79.8	20.7	1.2	79.0
Pubs.	457,237	9.8	4.2	.5	13.5
TOTAL	488,533				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 12,300

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

HOW DID WE DO IN JUNE?

With many district assemblies beginning this month, baptisms increased and we are thrilled to report that 12,300 new brothers and sisters were added to the congregations. This makes a total of 63,569 baptized in the first ten months of the service year; 7,794 more than all last year!

It is also encouraging to note that 886,685 Bibles and books were placed. This is over 155,000 more than were placed last June! Of course, we will want to cultivate this growing interest in God's Word by making return visits.

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

With Special Magazines

[1] Jehovah's witnesses appreciate the value of the *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines in providing much strengthening spiritual food for them. They also recognize that these magazines have been powerful instruments in 'opening the blind eyes' and in feeding thousands who spiritually hunger and thirst for God's Word.—Isa. 42:7; Matt. 5:6.

[2] The special issues of these magazines for October are designed to help many who 'sigh and groan' because of the bad conditions in the earth. (Ezek. 9:4) *The Watchtower* contains the assembly public address "Human Plans Failing as God's Purpose Succeeds." The *Awake!* special issue entitled "Does God Care?" answers a question that is perhaps most frequently asked, namely, Why has God permitted wickedness?

[3] In using this issue of *Awake!* you can arouse interest by asking a few of the questions in the article "Does God Care About Mankind?" Then you can call attention to the title of the article "When and Where Things Went Wrong" and "How God Has Actively Shown His Care."

[4] Or, you may use only the article "Human Suffering—Due to Whose Failure to Care?" After pointing out the apparent dilemma set out in paragraphs three and four, you can follow up with the offer of the magazine, saying that it provides the answer. When having a more extended discussion, you could epitomize the entire argument in this article. Show that it is not any lack in the earth's power to produce that is at fault. Rather, man's greed and his mishandling of earth's resources have brought about poverty, pollution and devastation of large areas of the earth. After discussing these points briefly, show the householder the special magazine that gives details on God's purpose to remedy these things and to bless mankind. Offer the subscription.

[5] The article "How Much Do You Care?", which is quite brief, may be used as a stepping-stone to a home Bible study. You can later switch to the *Truth* book or *Peace and Security* book. If the householder shows unusual interest, or when you make a return visit after placing this issue, read and discuss it together, if possible. This article makes an appeal to the person's love of good things and his desire for peace and life for himself and his family.

[6] In highlighting the special issue of *The Watchtower,* you may wish briefly to call attention to the failure of human plans for a better world, and ask, 'But has God been doing anything—do you think he is working out a purpose toward earth?' Where the householder replies, you may turn to the article "Human Plans Failing as God's Purpose Succeeds."

[7] Often we find people who say, 'Our church is about the same as yours.' Others do not know much about Jehovah's witnesses. They often have distorted ideas about us. If the activity of Jehovah's witnesses comes up—why they call at "Christian" homes, what their purpose is, and so forth—the article "How Are Jehovah's Witnesses Different?" may be used. Paragraphs dealing with the question asked may be referred to.

[8] The people need to know that God does care and that he is doing something now for them toward the completion of a grand purpose for the earth. The special magazines give us opportunity to bring this good news to as many persons as we can reach.

Book Studies (*Cont'd*)

research.) Second, those attending should study in advance. Without this, they will miss important points. Their advance preparation will also make their comments more meaningful and helpful to others in attendance. The conductor may, therefore, wish to announce the portion of the material that will likely be covered at the next study.

[4] The conductor ought to help the group to appreciate how the material is of value to them. On occasion he might highlight a specific point from the material, making an application for the benefit of the group. Or, he may ask them for comments as to how a certain point on the lesson as a whole affects them personally or could be used to help others to appreciate the truth.

[5] However, the conductor should endeavor to keep the study from dragging. People like to feel that they are 'getting somewhere' and to see that they are making progress in covering the book. With everyone studying beforehand, this can be accomplished.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ New peaks of evangelizers in country after country! Ivory Coast and Panama have had 11 consecutive peaks; Indonesia has had 13 peaks in a row!

◆ Japan and Korea each passed the 25,000-publisher mark for the first time.

◆ Brazil for first time, over 90,000 preachers.

◆ Nigeria's new peak of 99,867 publishers is their 4th consecutive increase.

◆ El Salvador's peak of 4,535 publishers is an astounding 59-percent increase over last year's average!

◆ Mexico reports 11,082 baptized in the first 10 months of this service year—almost 4,000 more than in all of last year.

Question Box

● Is it fitting to display the Hebrew or English letters of the Tetragrammaton on automobiles, jewelry and other items?

This is a matter that should rightly be left for each Witness to decide, based on the dictates of his own conscience.

Nevertheless, circumstances vary, and what may be appropriate in one locality may not be fitting in another area. For example, where there is considerable prejudice against Jews, displaying the Tetragrammaton in Hebrew letters could give rise to needless problems due to mistaken identity. And some Jews themselves find the public display of the Tetragrammaton objectionable. Also, in some areas there are other reasons why such a practice might be viewed as strange and so create misunderstandings.

On the other hand, some have found that displaying the Tetragrammaton either in English or Hebrew letters has aroused curiosity and given openings for informal witnessing. Then, too, it has served as a means of identifying other Witnesses when traveling.

If a person should decide to display the Tetragrammaton on his car, he should also appreciate the responsibility of not misrepresenting it by disregard for Caesar's laws or by careless and inconsiderate driving.

As Jehovah's servants we are responsible to uphold the dignity of his name. This is done primarily by preaching and by setting a good example in Christian living. Should the public display of the Tetragrammaton detract from that, it would obviously not be fitting. Furthermore, we do not want to give others the impression that the Tetragrammaton is the symbol of Jehovah's witnesses as a whole. We have no organizational symbol to identify ourselves but show that we are Jehovah's Christian witnesses by living in harmony with God's will.—John 13:35.

★ **Apply Counsel Given in the Special Meetings.** ★

Frank
14

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OCTOBER 1974 "Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18. VOL. XVII NO. 10

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

You will be interested in some of the details of Brother Knorr's recent trip to the Far East.

In Japan he arranged to purchase two more rotary presses—one for Japan, the other for the Philippines. Some bookbinding machinery was also ordered for the Brooklyn factory. Before leaving for South Korea he went over plans to purchase more property and enlarge the Bethel home and factory in Numazu.

Like Japan, South Korea is also seeing tremendous expansion in the Kingdom work. So, on this trip, plans were finalized for a three-story addition to the Bethel home in Seoul. From there, Brother Knorr went on to the island of Okinawa for the dedication of a new branch home.

Short stops were then made in Taiwan, Hong Kong, South Vietnam and the Philippines, where similar expansion problems were handled. Hong Kong has especially enjoyed a fine increase during the past year. The Philippine Bethel family was overjoyed to learn that they were getting another rotary press. They even volunteered to take on the printing of the Chinese magazines when they get it.

A few days after Brother Knorr returned to Brooklyn he announced that six more German-built rotary presses were on order (two for our German factory and four for Watchtower Farm), plus about two and a half million dollars' worth of bindery machinery. This will raise the capacity for book production in Germany to 11,000,000 and in Brooklyn to 60,000,000 a year during regular daytime working hours!

Other news concerns our brothers in war-torn Cyprus. We have learned that the brothers in the branch, and 350 to 400 other brothers, had to abandon their homes and take refuge in the Greek-held part of the island. Later, a few brothers, at great risk, returned to the branch building when the Turks were only 100 meters away, and were able to rescue some important records, files and literature. These were transferred to the missionary home in Limassol.

As far as is known, no brothers on Cyprus have lost their lives due to the fighting, but ten brothers living in the Turkish area are yet to be heard from. The branch in Greece has been instructed to ship whatever they can in the way of bedding, foodstuffs and money to aid our brothers on Cyprus.

We send warm love to all of you.

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Preach the Good News Everywhere

Kingdom News Points to Lasting, Satisfying Life

[1] Jesus commanded his disciples to be witnesses of him "to the most distant part of the earth." (Acts 1:8) In carrying out that commission his followers have used every appropriate means. They are keenly aware that the "good news" is to be declared "to every nation and tribe and tongue and people." (Rev. 14:6) Reports confirm that the work is being done, and it is our privilege to share in it.

[2] For fifty-five years, *Awake!* has been used to carry the message of the Kingdom to appreciative readers around the globe. Every two weeks, more than 8 million copies in 31 languages are put into the hands of a wide variety of people. It will be a pleasure to feature *Awake!* again during October.

[3] Most people identify *Awake!* as a companion to *The Watchtower*. So why not offer both subscriptions, with six booklets, for $3.00? Both may be just as readily accepted, and the benefits will be twofold.

[4] *Awake!* has promised to publish factual information about "vital topics on which you should be informed." Regular readers confirm that it certainly does that. It comes to grips with issues of serious concern, ones that dominate the headlines every day. But *Awake!* provides insight that other news sources do not; it shows the meaning of it all and what the outcome will be. People need to know these things; this is a compelling reason for us to share wholeheartedly in the effort to obtain subscriptions during October.

[5] Much good is also accomplished by distribution of the individual copies of the magazines. During October we have outstanding issues of both magazines to use. It will accomplish much good if we put forth an extra effort to get these into the hands of many people. Will you do so?

[6] *Awake!* is one of the many means that Jehovah's people are using to get the "good news" preached everywhere. Jehovah is certainly blessing these efforts with marvelous expansion! In the United States, a large proportion of the congregations are working their territory every six months or less. Arrangements were made for all the 223 unassigned territories to be covered by congregations or by temporary special pioneers during the summer months. More are taking up the regular pioneer service, over 1,000 being added to the ranks every month. Besides that, tens of thousands have enrolled as temporary pioneers. Results are seen in that most Kingdom Halls are crowded to capacity, and new congregations are being formed at a rate of more than one a day. Very fine indeed!

DISTRIBUTE KINGDOM NEWS NO. 19

[7] One feature of our service that contributed notably to the fine increase during the past year was distribution of *Kingdom News*. Many new Bible studies were started, and tens of thousands of new publishers shared in the distribution of those timely tracts. Our

(*Continued on page 7, col. 3*)

★ Preach the Good News in All Creation Under Heaven. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 13

15 min: Song 89. Introduction and brief family discussion of text. Family members also share with one another any good experiences heard in recent weeks from local publishers who had success in locating interested persons or starting Bible studies. Next, discuss obtaining of subscriptions; have various family members offer suggestions as to where they hope to obtain them: by house-to-house activity, from a neighbor or workmate, by giving a gift subscription, by calling back on an interested person, etc. Comment briefly on October 22 *Awake!* and why the featured subject is appropriate; briefly show how to offer it in magazine work. Father reviews congregation's field service arrangements for the week; discuss how they as a family can share, with special emphasis on magazine distribution.

15 min: "Preach the Good News Everywhere." Audience participation.

15 min: How to Engage Householders in Bible Discussions. Experienced publisher encourages newer one to share in house-to-house work with regular offer, using Bible. Cover these points: (1) Jehovah uses all kinds of persons; not great personal ability but willingness needed. (2) We realize that most of the Jews rejected Jesus; we cannot expect a majority of persons to listen to us. (3) Select one scripture; be willing to read it if householder is willing to listen; practice doing it. (4) Discuss appropriate introductions that will stimulate interest and encourage householders to comment. (5) Listen when householder speaks; be discerning, not pushy.

15 min: Concluding comments. Branch Letter. If not already done, presiding overseer for the past year may review encouraging highlights made in his report to the branch office, also offer recommendations about what to work on during the coming year. Song 103.

WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 20

10 min: Song 70. Introduction, text and comments. Discuss items of interest from Theocratic News and Announcements.

4 min: Accounts report.

10 min: Reporting Field Service. A talk. Questions have been raised about reporting time in the field service. Some ask if it is proper to count time spent taking "coffee breaks" or eating lunch. Is it all right to start counting time at a call near home and then travel a long distance to your territory? Can we start counting time by writing letters at home and then continue to count time thereafter while going to meet with a group for service? Other similar inquiries have been made.

An attempt to lay down rules is not practical, since circumstances vary in every case. All can be guided by the instruction to report "time spent in the activity of Kingdom-preaching and disciple-making, proclaiming God's truths to those who are not dedicated, baptized Witnesses." (*Organization* book, p. 126) After we get started, we may include time in getting from one house to another as we make our calls, and we may count the time whether householders are at home and willing to listen or not; our reason for calling is to preach. When some question arises, ask yourself: Has this time been spent in the preaching activity? Or, has it been spent doing something else that is not actually part of that work? Report all the time you conscientiously feel was used in the preaching work. The amount you report in comparison with others is not important. (Gal. 6:4) The important thing is that the love in your heart has moved you to share your faith with others. (Luke 6:45) What we report should give us joy and not pangs of conscience. Our concern should be about results accomplished and not reports made about it. Our giving should come from a cheerful heart and not just a sense of obligation. (2 Cor. 9:7) With each one being guided by his own conscience and a balanced viewpoint of the Scriptures, reports made to the congregation will reflect, not "acts of eyeservice," but good works motivated by a sincere heart.—Col. 3:22.

18 min: "It Helps to Talk About It." Questions and answers; look up scriptures and comment on them as time permits.

18 min: Concluding comments. Distribute a sample copy of *Kingdom News* No. 19 to each publisher; discuss the main points; read some excerpts; invite publishers to pick up supplies after meeting; encourage all to have full share in distribution starting November 1.

October *Kingdom Ministry* contains Theocratic Ministry School schedule for the coming year; encourage all to keep their copy and use it in preparing for meetings. Song 85.

WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 27

15 min: Song 102. Introduction, text and comments. Discuss, with audience participation, the Question Box.

15 min: "The Craving for Excitement." Group discussion of June 22, 1974, *Awake!* article. Older brother and sister chat informally with a group of teen-agers. Several teen-agers make expressions that reflect an impulsive, unbalanced view of popular pastimes. Discussion helps all to see the lack of wisdom and bad consequences from cultivating such interests. Comments stress logic, reasonableness without laying down rules.

10 min: Distributing *Kingdom News*. Emphasize ten-day distribution; discuss arrangements for group work, handling of territory; encourage sharing extra tracts with other publishers so that all are distributed. Include demonstration showing how to offer the tract briefly. Remind publishers that a copy of *Kingdom News* is to be left even when householder is not at home.

20 min: Awaiting the Divine Victory with Confidence. (Ps. 98:1, *NE*) Talk on theme for November. Stress reasons why we can have confidence in the following: Jehovah will protect his people as a group during the coming "great tribulation." Not just a few of God's servants, but a "great crowd" will survive. (Rev. 7:9, 14) In determining who of mankind will survive, God will judge righteously; Jehovah's way of handling matters is always the best way. (Deut. 32:4; Matt. 25:31-33) Guidance now provided by the "slave" is Jehovah's provision. (Matt. 24:45-47) Now is the time to be busy in the work that God has given us to do; our faith, patience and industriousness will be richly rewarded.—1 Cor. 15:58; Heb. 6:10-12.

Get expressions from audience (selected, in part, in advance) about effects of the two special service meetings in September. After sober thinking on the matters discussed, have some taken steps toward a more firm stand for the truth? Have some felt the need to be more zealous in the field service? Is there a greater feeling of urgency? Encourage all to be loyal, wholehearted. Urge all, before next week, to look up scriptures in service meeting outline.

Announce special public talk for this week, encouraging all to attend, bringing new book and Bible. Remind that *Thousand Years* book should be completed at book studies by end of November. Song 67.

WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 3

10 min: Song 66. Introduction, text and comments.

30 min: Now Is the Time to Decide. (Audience discussion) It is reasonable to expect that we will encounter critical situations in the near future where we may suddenly be compelled to make weighty decisions with far-reaching effects. Indecisiveness could be disastrous. (Jas. 1:6-8) The training now being provided by Jehovah helps us clearly to "distinguish both right and wrong." (Heb. 5:14) NOW is the time to anticipate issues that may arise, consider the factors involved and decide what we are going to do. If we give no thought to such matters until they confront us, the pressures and uncertainties of the moment may overwhelm us with dire consequences. The following are some critical situations that we should already have considered and made a decision as to what course we will follow. Invite audience to comment on how they view the following matters and why: (1) Relatives may threaten to disown you because of your faith. (Matt. 10:35-39; Mark 10:29, 30) (2) Facing the loss of much materially, perhaps due to bad economic situation. (Hab. 3:17, 18) (3) Being subjected to arrest or imprisonment as a Christian. (Matt. 10:18, 19; Rev. 2:10) (4) Having to endure physical hardships in connection with persecution. (Job 2:5; 1 Pet. 2:20; 2 Cor. 11:23-27) (5) Preaching work banned; meetings forbidden. (Acts 5:28, 29) (6) Pressure to give support to a worldly government. (Luke 4:5-8; Jas. 4:4) (7) Sudden temptation to immoral conduct. (1 Cor. 6:9, 10) (8) Confronted with demand to salute a flag. (Dan. 3:16-18) (9) Enticed by some worldly attraction. (1 John 2:15-17) (10) Temptation to retaliate for mistreatment or opposition. (Rom. 12:17-20) (11) Being urged by someone to ignore counsel from elders. (Heb. 13:17) (12) What if some former brothers turned rebellious? (1 Tim. 4:1, 16) (13) What if your own life is endangered by opposers? (2 Cor. 1:8-10)

Advance knowledge lovingly provided by Jehovah can help us to make future decisions right now and avoid a wrong course. (2 Pet. 3:17) A firm resolve to be guided by God's Word can give us the courage we need to face whatever the future may bring.—Prov. 3:5, 6.

10 min: Presenting the Good News. Two publishers discuss offering *"Eternal Purpose"* book. Practice offering it using sermon "Does God Care?" Interrupt sermon at certain points to discuss what is being done and why.

10 min: Concluding comments. Discuss what is needed to conclude tract work by November 10. Song 76.

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It Helps to Talk About It

1 God's Word says much about proper use of the tongue. (Jas. 3:1-10) While many situations require restraining the tongue from speaking altogether, there definitely is a "time to speak," a time when well-chosen words are "as apples of gold in silver carvings." (Eccl. 3:7; Prov. 25:11) A good word from the "tongue of the wise ones is a healing," a sharp contrast to thoughtless, inconsiderate babbling.—Prov. 12:18.

2 Of course, as imperfect humans we all sin with our tongue or may in other ways offend fellow believers. (Jas. 3:2; 1 John 1:8) Appreciating that we are in need of forgiveness should certainly cause us to be merciful with our brothers, not making issues of minor matters. However, if a person is really troubled and simply cannot put a certain minor offense out of mind and heart, he would not improve the situation by refusing to talk to the offender. Such silence might breed suspicion and distrust, widening the breach that already exists. On the other hand, a few minutes of understanding conversation may put an end to long-standing grievances.—Matt. 5:23, 24; Eph. 4:26.

3 Kind words not only contribute much toward improving relationships but also serve to encourage and to build others up. Do we not all experience discouragement? The old system exerts tremendous pressure upon us. It is becoming more difficult to make a living. Surely, then, we benefit from the encouraging word of a thoughtful friend. An expression of kindness, an upbuilding thought from the Bible, or even a friendly greeting may be just the "good word" needed to make our hearts rejoice.—Prov. 12:25.

4 Especially when our thoughts and meditations center on spiritual things will our conversations be upbuilding. (Phil. 4:8) An added blessing that results therefrom is that spiritual things are impressed more deeply upon our minds and hearts. And do we not have many good things to talk about? These might be outstanding points we have read in the Watch Tower publications, Biblical passages that particularly impressed us while doing personal study, or things called to our attention at congregational meetings. An encouraging experience can also "impart what is favorable to the hearers."—Eph. 4:29.

5 There are times when it requires courage to make good use of the tongue. Especially is this the case when someone close to us becomes guilty of serious wrongdoing and simply tries to conceal it. Strong emotional feelings may weigh heavily upon us, causing us to want to refrain from speaking to the elders about the matter. But it would really be a distorted sense of loyalty if we were to pass over the serious wrongdoing of someone else. (Deut. 13:6-8) Then, too, it would not be a kindness to the wrongdoer, as it could deprive him of needed spiritual help from the elders and cause him to become hardened in a course of sin. Furthermore, we would be showing a lack of concern for the cleanness of the congregation, exposing it to reproach. We could actually be denying our claim of loyalty to Jehovah and his law, possibly endangering our own standing before him. So, while it might be difficult to speak out, would it not be the right and beneficial course for all concerned?

6 No question about it, communication at the right time is vital in preserving the peace and harmony of the congregation. That is why elders should rightly be concerned about setting a fine example in this respect when caring for their responsibilities. In matters that have a considerable effect on people's lives, an elder acts with insight when he does not make a decision on his own but consults fellow elders. As Proverbs 15:22 says: "There is a frustrating of plans where there is no confidential talk, but in the multitude of counselors there is accomplishment." Elders who appreciate this do not limit discussions to their four meetings a year but take time to consult one another about problems and

(*Continued on page 8, col. 1*)

Announcements

◆ Literature offer for October: *Awake!* subscription, with 3 booklets, for $1.50; or a double subscription, with 6 booklets, for $3.00. November: *God's "Eternal Purpose" Now Triumphing for Man's Good*, for 25c. December: *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*, along with the book *Is This Life All There Is?*, for $1.25.

◆ New Publications Available:
New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures (bi8-S) Large Print Edition —Spanish
Human Plans Failing as God's Purpose Succeeds —French, Spanish
God's Kingdom of a Thousand Years Has Approached —Japanese
"The Nations Shall Know that I Am Jehovah"—How? —French
Paradise Restored to Mankind—By Theocracy —Italian, Spanish
Listening to the Great Teacher —Sepedi, Tswana
The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life —Pangasinan, Tsonga
Divine Rulership—The Only Hope for All Mankind —Ibo

◆ Available Again in U.S.A.:
"Look! I Am Making All Things New" —Romanian
Basis for Belief in a New World —Romanian

◆ In the case of those who make telephone calls to the Society's Brooklyn offices, it will help us if more of you will use the number 858-1240, not only 625-1240.

JULY SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	696	123.6	41.7	4.0	141.3
Pios.	20,355	91.9	34.0	2.8	86.5
Temp. Pios.	8,347	82.0	20.0	1.1	70.9
Pubs.	486,573	9.7	4.1	.5	13.4
TOTAL	515,971				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 12,997

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

HOW DID WE DO IN JULY?

Most of us attended an assembly during the month, yet a fine effort in the service resulted in the distribution of 1,116,444 books. That exceeded last July's report by more than 320,000!

Several congregations, along with 98 temporary special pioneers, were busy in unassigned territory, making sure people in those areas hear the good news.

The number baptized was 12,997, bringing the 11-month total to 76,566. That is 20,991 above last year's total! In a marvelous way, we see Jehovah "Increasing the Wealth of Earth's New King"!

Preach the Good News (*Cont'd*)

work with *Kingdom News* is not finished.

8 From November 1 to 10 it will be our privilege to distribute *Kingdom News* No. 19, which features a question that millions of people are asking: "Is This All There Is to Life?" The message that it contains is warm, appealing. Once you have read it, you will want others to do so.

9 Work together as a congregation to see that all the tracts get into the hands of the public. About 100 for each publisher have been shipped to your congregation. Some of you may be able to distribute more; some, less. By united effort, endeavor to get all of them out by November 10. Perhaps some who are attending the meetings have never shared in the field service but would like to have a part in this work. If so, we encourage them to make this known to one of the elders before November. The elder will gladly discuss with them what is needed to qualify.

10 By zealously sharing in making known the "good news" we demonstrate our devotion to Jehovah, also our love for our fellowmen. Lives are involved. May willing hearts move us to share to the full in the work.

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

With the "Eternal Purpose" Book

1 Included among the many good things we rejoiced to receive at the "Divine Purpose" assembly was the fascinating new book *God's "Eternal Purpose" Now Triumphing for Man's Good.* We will waste no time in putting it to good use.

2 First, if we have not yet done so, it would be good to read it ourselves. It contains spiritual food that will strengthen us. To help us digest it, the public talks during November will highlight important points to remember. This will be followed by a page-by-page consideration at the book studies starting December 1. In the meantime, carry copies with you, offering it to neighbors, workmates and others that you contact in your daily routine. Make sure that interested ones previously contacted are offered a copy, along with encouragement to attend the public talks. It is recommended that, after we distribute *Kingdom News* No. 19, we return to the same territory with the new book. Many who read the tract may be glad to get more information.

3 What about a presentation to use in offering the book? If you wish, you may continue using the sermon "Does God Care?" which was suggested for use with the subscription offer during October. This theme is certainly appropriate, since God's determination to carry out his eternal purpose is convincing proof that he cares a great deal for us. The very first chapter assures us that "We Are Within the Purpose of a Loving Creator." You could also refer to page 186, paragraph 42, where pointed comments are made on the texts in that sermon.

4 You may prefer to ask a thought-provoking question and then refer to a scripture quoted in the book that provides the answer. For example: "Human plans are all failing. Can we trust God to succeed in fulfilling his purpose?" (Page 24, par. 38; read Psalm 33:9-12.) "Many say that God has abandoned this earth. Does he still have a worthwhile purpose toward this earth that will be fulfilled?" (Page 35, par. 16; read Isaiah 45:18.) "Human governments seem to be helpless in coping with world problems. Is there any government that God will use to bring lasting peace?" —Page 127, par. 18; read Isaiah 9:6, 7.

5 If you want a brief presentation, you could turn to the illustration on page 4 and say: "God has an eternal purpose that will soon bring cause for much happiness to people in all nations. This book surveys that special purpose from its beginning and shows how you can be among those privileged to enjoy its blessings."

6 You are sure to get other ideas about offering the book as you use it during the month and pay close attention to the public talks. Its contents provide an insight into the immediate future that is presently of great interest to many sincere people. Be alert to opportunities to start studies with those who show a desire to learn more.

7 Distribution of *Kingdom News* No. 19 will be our first objective during the early part of November, but as soon as your supply of tracts is exhausted or your territory is covered, concentrate on book distribution during the balance of the month. Many honest-hearted people will be comforted by this faith-strengthening explanation of God's eternal purpose.

It Helps to Talk About It (*Cont'd*)

suggestions as well as to make sure that *important* matters are known by the entire body.

7 Occasionally, when the elders meet, mention may be made of a brother or sister who in some way is failing to set a good example. Perhaps a decision is made not to use the person for demonstrations in the service meeting nor to appoint him or her as a temporary pioneer, or the like. When that is the case, the person would be benefited if the elders tried to help that one to become a better example. A failure to communicate could give rise to feelings of resentment or discouragement. Love should prompt such shepherds to give needed aid.

8 How happy we can be that the Bible gives us excellent guidelines for using the tongue aright! May all of us work hard to follow these, thereby contributing to the joy and upbuilding of our brothers.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ British Isles reports 108,102 attended district assemblies—first time over 100,000 in attendance in one year in that country's history. Total baptized for service year by end of July is 7,600—up 25 percent over last year's total.

◆ Israel reports they now have 5 congregations, with a second one formed in Tel Aviv. Publishers reporting in July are 30 percent ahead of last year's average.

◆ For the first time Nigeria passed the 100,000 mark in publishers (100,347). Much potential for increase, as final Memorial report shows 258,978 attended.

◆ Kenya passes 1,500 mark for first time; 1,534 publishers, a 33-percent increase.

◆ Brazil reports book placements up 30,000 over last year's July total; magazine placements up 55 percent.

◆ Baptism total by end of July for Argentina 61 percent ahead of last year's pace; 4,475 baptized.

◆ Dominican Republic reports a 27-percent increase, with 5,679 publishers in July. More baptized than in any past year.

Question Box

● How can we get help to solve a personal problem?

There is real satisfaction in being able to solve our own problems with the help of God's Word. Many find they can successfully resolve most personal difficulties through prayer and personal study of the Bible. Better than anyone else, Jehovah knows our problems and invites us to come to him for help. (Heb. 4:16; Jas. 1:2-5; *Watchtower*, July 1, 1974, pp. 414, 415) *The Watch Tower Publications Index* can be used to locate material that deals with specific problems and the Bible counsel that applies.

After following the above suggestions, if you still feel the need for assistance, then talk to one of the elders in your congregation. These brothers know you and your circumstances; they are usually in a good position to offer the counsel you need from God's Word. Remember, the elder arrangement is Jehovah's provision for giving spiritual assistance.

If the problem persists and you have good reason to feel that you need further help, you may write to the Society. If you decide to write, we suggest that you do the following: Identify yourself, your congregation and any other persons directly involved. Anonymous letters are never answered. Do not inquire about hypothetical situations. State things accurately, avoiding conjecture and unrelated details. Provide complete information, clearly stating the nature of your problem. Relate what you have done so far to solve it and why you feel that you have been unsuccessful. An effort will be made to point out the Bible principles that apply. If you write about counsel given by the elders, it would be good to provide them a copy of your letter. When others are involved, the Society may send a copy of its reply to the elders so that they will know what advice has been given.

★ **Awake! Contains What People Need to Know.** ★

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NOVEMBER 1974 "Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18. VOL. XVII NO. 11

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

The figures are now in, and indeed this past service year has had Jehovah's blessing. The number of publishers in the United States increased 15 percent; that means, on an average, 66,878 more praisers of Jehovah. This, in turn, made necessary 483 additional congregations, for a total of 6,542 just in this country. The tremendous increase is also reflected in the number baptized. There was an all-time record of 81,588 persons immersed this past year! Just think—that is more than the annual figure for the whole world just seven years ago. It certainly makes us rejoice to see so many persons get started on the way that leads to real life.

These newer ones, along with the rest of us, will find the *1975 Yearbook* fascinating. Many who have joined us in Jehovah's service in recent years, while deeply appreciating the truth, have not read much about the actual development of the modern-day organization of Jehovah's witnesses. But the details are in the new *Yearbook*. It focuses on the development of the work here in the United States and is the most complete and comprehensive account yet written on the work of Jehovah's witnesses in modern times.

We suggest that you order extra copies of the *1975 Yearbook*. Providing copies of it for your relatives, neighbors and acquaintances may prove to be a good way to help them to learn the facts about Jehovah's witnesses. Even though they might not read other publications about our beliefs, they might be very interested in this. It is an official account of the organization, its development and growth for the past one hundred years.

Ever since the hurricane that slammed into the Central American country of Honduras in mid-September, leaving between 7,500 and 8,000 persons dead according to newspaper reports, we have had many inquiries about the welfare of our brothers there. A few days after the storm we here at Bethel got the news that, although hundreds of our brothers lost their possessions, not one of them had lost his life. In short order brothers in nearby Nicaragua and Belize, as well as here in New York and in New Orleans, had relief supplies on their way to the brothers in Honduras. All together, within a very short time some 56,700 pounds of relief supplies were sent, in addition to thousands of dollars for the purchase of supplies locally. Isn't it a blessing to be part of an organization in which there is real love for one another?

Soon all who live will be people of that sort. As we confidently await the coming divine victory, let's keep busy aiding all who have a love for righteousness to take their stand on Jehovah's side. We send you our warm love.

Your brothers,

BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Others Need What We Have

1 There are many honest-hearted persons who do not yet know the truth about God and his purpose. They are distressed at what they see taking place in the world, but do not know which way to turn. They, too, need the truth that comes from God.

2 The hour is very late for this dying system of things. Appreciating the urgency of the times, we arrange our affairs to make time to reach others with the truth. And we rejoice to see so many responding favorably. As one publisher wrote, "Isn't the fine increase wonderful? It certainly bears out the fact that not all of the 'sheep' have been gathered yet, and it makes us want to go 'hunting' all the more." Nothing we could be doing at this time could be more rewarding. Why so? Because, as we share in it, we are actually 'fellow workers with God,' and the results of our work will endure.—1 Cor. 3:9.

3 The first ten days of November are being spent distributing *Kingdom News* No. 19. Undoubtedly, thousands who read it will be moved by the information, as were thousands through previous issues of *Kingdom News*. One couple who were moving into an empty apartment found a copy of *Kingdom News* No. 18 in a drawer, the only thing left in the whole apartment. After reading it, they called the phone number given, a study was started, and not only are they attending all meetings regularly, but they have also expressed a desire to be baptized. Another man called the same congregation and wanted to know what he could do to help in the distribution. A study was started, and he too is attending Sunday meetings.

4 Interestingly, every month to date during which we have distributed *Kingdom News*, a new peak of publishers has been reached: 512,738 shared in field service in September 1973; 525,007 published in December of that year; and our present peak of 539,262 was reached last May. Likely, many more contacted in our witnessing activities will be sharing with us this month in field service. Wouldn't it be grand to see another peak of publishers for November!

5 It is suggested that, after we distribute *Kingdom News* No. 19, we work the same territory again as soon as possible with the offer of the *"Eternal Purpose"* book on a contribution of 25c.

6 In addition to placing literature as we work territories covered with *Kingdom News*, we should have in mind starting Bible studies wherever possible. How encouraging it is to note the fine increase in Bible study activity! Our monthly average for the 1974 service year was

(*Continued on page 4, col. 1*)

★ Awaiting the Divine Victory with Confidence. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 10

15 min: Song 54. Introduction, text and comments. Father discusses text with family, children read selected Theocratic News items, and then father reviews high points of Branch Letter.

15 min: "Others Need What We Have." Question-and-answer discussion. When considering paragraphs 3 and 4, ask for local experiences enjoyed in connection with any of the *Kingdom News* distributions or experiences publishers have heard from other congregations. (Have some selected in advance.)

18 min: "Presenting the Good News—With Illustrations." Talk, with demonstrations appropriate to local territory. As time permits, also consider pictures that could be used effectively in this week's magazine service.

12 min: Concluding comments. Include accounts report, appropriate Announcements. Song 59.

WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 17

10 min: Song 69. Introduction, text and comments.

20 min: "Maintaining a Balanced Viewpoint Toward Disfellowshiped Ones." Two elders of the judicial committee are approached by newer publisher. They review high points of this August 1, 1974, *Watchtower* article. Cover following points: (1) Why the Christian congregation rightly takes action toward those exercising an immoral influence among them, (2) how and why Christians guard against developing an attitude approaching that of some Jewish rabbinical writers, (3) what spiritual fellowshiping involves (include material in Question Box), (4) the meaning of Paul's words at 2 Corinthians 2:11, (5) the need for a balanced view within family circle, (6) the importance of conducting ourselves properly at all times. Invite any who have questions on the subject to speak personally to the elders after the meeting.

20 min: "Do Not Neglect the Elderly Among Us." Question-and-answer discussion. After discussing material, ask audience for suggestions regarding the following: What can we in our congregation do to be of help to older ones to get to meetings and in the field service to the extent that they are able? How can we aid any who are confined at home, in the hospital or rest homes? Invite the audience to inform the elders of aged brothers or sisters who are confined and may need spiritual assistance, so the elders can arrange for such to be given.

10 min: Concluding comments. Mention plans for activity on world's Thanksgiving Day. Song 61.

WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 24

10 min: Song 68. Introduction, text and comments.

10 min: Study of the *"Eternal Purpose"* Book. Talk covering following: Special series of talks now helping us to get familiar with material in the book, we will study it from December through May. Book study conductors should endeavor to cover book as follows: First three chapters during five weeks of study, averaging 8 pages per week; then remaining 12 chapters the following 20 weeks at about 7 pages per week. By studying thoroughly beforehand, book study becomes "in-depth" review with two valuable purposes: (1) Ensures our gaining best possible understanding of material, (2) provides better training in expressing the information to others.

15 min: "Use the Publications Wisely." Elder discusses this information with his family, using scriptures cited in a very simple way to help all in the family, including young ones, to appreciate the Christian view of wastefulness. Allow each member of family to express himself on how principles can be applied personally. Give primary attention to the matter of literature, but can mention that in all aspects of life the Christian example is not one of wastefulness but of faithful use of all that Jehovah gives us.

15 min: Talk on article "What Do You Say to God?" in June 8, 1974, *Awake!*

10 min: Concluding comments. Many publishers of school age have one to two weeks of vacation over the holiday period. Many will be in position to temporary pioneer during December. Song 71.

WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 1

10 min: Song 20. Introduction, text and comments.

20 min: "What Is the Bible's View?" Panel discussion of various *Awake!* articles under this subject that are applicable to local territory. Select three or four subjects that may be of help in overcoming objections encountered in field service, such as, for example: "Must You Be Born Again?" (8/22/74), "Does Fate Rule Your Future?" (7/8/74), "Are They Harmless Observances?" (2/8/74), etc.

15 min: Offering the *New World Translation* and *This Life* Book. Chairman opens with encouraging talk for all to share in field service during December. Preparation is necessary. Discuss and demonstrate how various illustrations in the book can be used successfully in local territory, and Bible and book offer made. After each presentation, allow audience to analyze what was done, how they can use the suggestions in their field service. Include also demonstration of publisher using table of contents to arouse interest of householder in *This Life* book and then make Bible and book offer. Appreciating the importance of Bible study work, encourage all to start Bible studies at every opportunity.

15 min: Concluding comments, including brief, motivating talk on December theme: "Exult in Jehovah Despite Earthly Hardships."—Hab. 3:17, 18. Song 79.

Announcements

◆ When ordering the *1975 Yearbook*, publishers and pioneers are requested to do so through the congregation with which they are associated. Orders for the English edition of the *1975 Yearbook* may be placed starting November 15. Please order only after that date. The *Yearbook* will also be available in Dutch, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese and Spanish by about December 15. *Yearbooks* are 50c each. All orders for the *Yearbook* will be charged to your congregation literature account. Regular and special pioneers on the list since before July 1, 1974, may receive a free *Yearbook* by making request of the brother handling the literature. This will be included in the congregation's order and, later, credit may be requested from the Society for the pioneers' copies. Pioneers may obtain additional copies at 15c each. Calendars are no longer available.

◆ Any *Kingdom News* not distributed by November 10 should be used thereafter when sharing in regular features of field service.

◆ Literature offer for November: *"Eternal Purpose"* book for 25c. For December: *New World Translation* and *This Life* book for $1.25. If you run out of *This Life* books, use whatever 25c book you have available. January through April: *Watchtower* subscription, with three booklets, for $1.50.

◆ Available in Grade-two English Braille:

The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life
Is the Bible Really the Word of God?
Listening to the Great Teacher
True Peace and Security—From What Source?

Available in Grade-one Spanish Braille:

This Good News of the Kingdom
Tract #8, *Life in God's New Order*

Any of these publications will be sent free of charge and may be requested by writing the Braille Desk. The publications must be returned to the Braille Desk after completion of reading or studying. These are not to be stocked by the congregation.

◆ New Publications Available:

"Things in Which It Is Impossible for God to Lie" —Malagasy
Paradise Restored to Mankind—By Theocracy! —Portuguese
Divine Victory—Its Meaning for Distressed Humanity —Chishona, Cinyanja
"This Good News of the Kingdom" —Chokwe

◆ Available Again in U.S.A.:

New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, Regular Edition (bi12) —English
Jehovah's Witnesses in the Divine Purpose —Spanish

◆ The Society now publishes a monthly edition of *The Watchtower* in the Bohemian and Romanian languages. The subscription rate is 75 cents for one year. *The Watchtower* is also available semimonthly in Ibo, at $1.50 for a year's subscription.

AUGUST SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	721	129.1	41.6	3.9	159.5
Pios.	20,683	92.7	33.1	2.8	90.6
Temp. Pios.	13,792	80.2	18.8	.9	78.5
Pubs.	490,177	9.9	4.2	.5	14.4
TOTAL	525,373				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 5,022

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1974
483,438 Publishers

Published monthly by Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc., 117 Adams St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201
Second-class postage paid at Brooklyn, N.Y. Printed in U.S.A.

Use the Publications Wisely

1 None of us should be wasteful. Jesus classified as "unrighteous" a steward who handled his master's goods wastefully. (Luke 16:1, 2, 8) In contrast, Jesus Christ, after distributing divinely provided loaves and fishes, told his disciples: "Gather together the fragments that remain over, so that nothing is wasted." Do we personally show this same attitude toward provisions that Jehovah makes for us today?—John 6:12.

2 Jehovah does not "miraculously" multiply the publications used by his servants today, but provides such through the vigorous efforts of brothers working in the Society's branches and the contributions of brothers all over the earth. And even though the Brooklyn and Watchtower Farms plants produced 45,718,920 books, 13,874,957 booklets and 268,509,382 magazines during the past service year, it has been necessary to enlarge the night shift and purchase additional machinery to keep pace with the constantly increasing demand for Bibles and literature. We are glad to do it.

3 But various reports state that many of the publications are, in a sense, not being used wisely. Oftentimes Bibles, books, songbooks and magazines are left unclaimed at Kingdom Halls and assembly sites or are discarded, though in good condition. Too, it is reported that many magazines are being ordered only to be discarded sometime after the issue date has passed. What can be done to ensure that these provisions from our heavenly Master are used wisely?

4 During the period of Bible writing, the Scriptures were hand copied on scrolls and were considered very valuable. Paul instructed Timothy: "When you come, bring the cloak I left at Troas with Carpus, and the scrolls, especially the parchments." (2 Tim. 4:13) Just as Paul valued his clothing, having left his cloak with a trusted brother, so he valued those scrolls, entrusting their safe delivery to the care of Timothy. Having a similar appreciation for the Word of God today, parents will not allow their children to scribble in or otherwise damage Christian publications any more than they would be allowed to damage expensive clothing. The low price of the publications should not cause us to underestimate their value. Also we should have in mind that the cost of paper continues to increase and various types of paper are scarce on the market. Proper care of our Bibles, books, songbooks and magazines will extend their useful life and present a more respectable appearance in the field service and at congregation meetings. In this way, we not only imitate Jesus in not being wasteful, but additionally we glorify Jehovah by an attitude of appreciation.—Ps. 50:23.

5 Elders in a congregation may note that far more magazines are being ordered each month than are being placed by the congregation. If we notice that older magazines are accumulating in our home, why not make a special effort to distribute these to nursing homes and hospitals, or place them through informal witnessing or at not-at-homes? If we have more than we can use in this way, even though the magazines may be months old, why not ask the elders if others in the congregation can make use of them? If we find that our personal magazine order is regularly more than we are able to place, then it would be better to order fewer magazines.

6 Each one of us, whether young or old, can show appreciation for the provisions made through Jehovah's organization. How? By using our Bibles and study aids wisely, seeing that they are not carelessly wasted, but are used for the purpose intended—to further the interests of pure worship.

Do Not Neglect the Elderly Among Us

1 From earliest times the elderly among Jehovah's people have been held in high esteem. They were respected for the experience and knowledge that age brings and for the wisdom and sound judgment it may produce. Elihu showed this respect when he addressed Job's three companions. (Job 32:6, 7; 12:12) Jehovah, who refers to himself as "the Ancient of Days," commanded: "Before gray hair you should rise up, and you must show consideration for the person of an old man."—Lev. 19:32; Dan. 7:9.

2 Respect for age is also evident in the Christian congregation. The wisdom that comes with accumulated years of faithful service can make a substantial and beneficial contribution to the entire association of the brothers. Unaffected by the attitude of this passing old system, we are grateful for the blessings of having the elderly among us. The question is, Do we always show it? Or may we, perhaps unwittingly sometimes, neglect older ones, thus missing a great blessing ourselves?

3 Are the older ones made to feel welcome at the meetings and encouraged to participate freely? Are arrangements made to assist them in getting to meetings and into field service, even if some of them are not able to stay out as long as others in the group? Are they included when personal social arrangements are made, perhaps to share a meal or to enjoy pleasurable association?

4 What of those confined for health reasons to home, bed or institutions? Are regular visits made by elders and others, keeping such ones supplied with current spiritual food? Can younger ones be encouraged to assist such infirm ones with shopping, housework, errands, etc.? Would you be willing to read aloud from the Bible or one of the Society's publications to an older person no longer enjoying good eyesight? Elderly ones may hold back from requesting assistance in various circumstances, but without doubt they will be deeply appreciative if it is offered.

5 It has happened that unbelieving relatives have assumed responsibility for disabled elderly brothers, placing them in homes or institutions far away without the congregation's knowledge. This can result in bleak and lonely isolation, unless the congregation exerts every effort to ascertain the whereabouts of such ones and thereafter inform the congregation nearest to them of their need for Christian association. In the meantime, the original congregation ought to keep in touch as much as possible by telephone, letter writing or visits.

6 Growing old sometimes brings disorders affecting behavior, which can become matters of concern in the congregation. Elders should approach these problems with great love, compassion and understanding, not dealing harshly or unkindly. (1 Tim. 5:1) In times of serious illness or need our elderly brothers need to know that the congregation is aware of their situation, ready to render assistance and indeed appreciative of this opportunity to express love to them.

7 Jehovah's elderly servants should always be made to feel the love, appreciation and respect of the congregation. Rather than neglecting them, as the world often does, let us assign them dignity and honor and thus reflect the loving viewpoint of our ageless heavenly Father.—Prov. 16:31.

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

With Illustrations

¹ "All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds by illustrations." (Matt. 13:34) Jesus appreciated their value. Illustrations can arrest a hearer's attention and arouse his thinking faculties. And what is equally important to us in presenting the good news, they can stir the emotions and aid in reaching the heart.

² Some illustrations are verbal; others are actual pictures. Did you know that you have a ready-made source of useful illustrations for your field service? Where? In the Society's publications. For example, the picture found on the cover of *Kingdom News* No. 19 can be used effectively in our follow-through work with the *"Eternal Purpose"* book. How? By taking along our personal copy of *Kingdom News* and pointing out the illustration to those with whom we speak.

³ After a friendly greeting, we might say: 'Recently we left at your home a copy of this thought-provoking item, "Is This All There Is to Life?" Undoubtedly you noted here on the cover a cycle we are all too well familiar with: A baby grows into childhood, adulthood, middle age, old age, and then . . . Haven't we all wondered at one time or another, Was it really God's purpose that man should live on the earth a few years, grow old and then die, leaving only a memory in the hearts of those who loved him? [Allow for householder's reply.] If you are familiar with the Bible account, you probably remember the Bible's explanation of how sin and death entered human experience through the disobedience of Adam and Eve. [Allow for any response the householder here wishes to make. If no comment offered, briefly explain how Adam disregarded God's warning and ate of the forbidden fruit, which brought upon him old age and eventual death.] Notice what is stated in this Bible commentary . . . [Turn to page 55 of *"Eternal Purpose"* book and read first three sentences. Then continue . . .] Since death was not the purpose of God for mankind, what was? And will that purpose ever be realized? This publication follows the development of God's purpose from its inception right on through to the promise of its realization in our day, as outlined in the Bible. You may have this copy for 25 cents.'

⁴ Illustrations can likewise be effectively used when placing magazines and obtaining subscriptions. One traveling overseer presented a *Watchtower* subscription to a woman only to have her state she was not interested. The brother, prepared for such a response, drew attention to an illustration in the magazine, taking time to explain its meaning as the householder mused over it. She subscribed. Why? The initial conversation had failed to capture her attention in a favorable way, but the use of an illustration reached her heart and she "saw" the value of what was discussed.

⁵ Effectively using the illustrations provided in the Society's publications can result in honest-hearted ones today 'getting the sense' of the Bible's message, even as did honest-hearted ones in Jesus' day.—Matt. 13:51-53.

Others Need What We Have (*Cont'd*)

316,112, an average increase of 34,775 over the 1973 monthly average. Yes, many people are realizing they, too, need the truth and are responding to our invitation to have a Bible study.

⁷ Letters continue to be received stating that evening witnessing is an excellent time to find householders at home and in a relaxed, receptive mood. Some congregations have made arrangements for evening service, starting around 5:00 p.m., and are receiving fine support from the publishers. Often where no one was at home on weekends or during the day because both husband and wife work, contact was made through evening witnessing. Could you make use of this proven means of locating those who might otherwise be overlooked in daytime field service?

⁸ Just as we need the truth and appreciate what having it means to us, all others need what we have if they desire to 'do the will of God' and 'remain forever' on earth, enjoying the blessings of God's eternal purpose.—1 John 2:17.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

◆ In the United States 529 new congregations were enrolled during the 1974 service year, compared to the previous high of 317 new congregations for the 1973 service year.

◆ Mexico reports its 13th consecutive peak in publishers (71,007); 13,678 baptized during year—6,511 more than for all of 1973.

◆ Philippines reports 15,059 baptized for service year—more than double last year's peak baptism figure of 7,260.

Question Box

● In view of our understanding of 2 John 9-11 as discussed in *The Watchtower* of August 1, 1974, would there ever be circumstances that would allow for a disfellowshiped person to attend a meeting held in a private home?

Generally speaking, disfellowshiped persons are not invited to meetings held in private homes. The *Organization* book (page 174) said: "A disfellowshiped person is not prohibited from attending meetings in the Kingdom Hall open to the general public as long as he conducts himself properly. None will greet him, of course, and he may not attend any meetings held in private homes." This is true concerning those who are 'pushing ahead' and do not "remain in the teaching of the Christ."

However, if a disfellowshiped person is trying to make a comeback, showing repentance, and if he is not in violation of what is stated at 2 John 9-11 by continuing to practice or to advocate what is contrary to "the teaching of the Christ," it may be he would be allowed to attend meetings in a home if there is no Kingdom Hall in the town and where brothers open up their homes for public meetings, *Watchtower* studies and service meetings so that the home serves in the place of a Kingdom Hall. In such cases the home would be viewed as similar to a Kingdom Hall during the hours when those meetings are held. The meetings are under the control of the body of elders. They will know the facts concerning the disfellowshiped person and can consider whether his attending a meeting in a home would bring reproach upon the congregation. They may discuss the question among themselves and with the householder. If there is no objection on the part of the householder to the disfellowshiped person's attending, then the elders may so inform the disfellowshiped one, and he would be allowed to enter that home during the hours when the home is used as a Kingdom Hall. At all times when he is there, the disfellowshiped person must conduct himself properly.

Where the only meeting held in a private home is the book study, a disfellowshiped person would not be invited to attend, but he may attend meetings held at the Kingdom Hall.

As pointed out in *The Watchtower* of August 1, 1974, page 465, a Christian may greet a disfellowshiped person who is not like those described at 2 John 9-11, but he would certainly not go beyond a word of "hello" or greeting. *The Watchtower*, August 1, 1974, page 472, suggested that, where fleshly relationships are not involved, it would be well to leave to the elders further conversation or exhortation.

★ Are You Sharing in the Bible Study Work? ★

KINGDOM MINISTRY

FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DECEMBER 1974 VOL. XVII NO. 12

"Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, . . . I will exult in Jehovah himself."—Hab. 3:17, 18.

Dear Kingdom Publishers:

When the Bethel family heard Brother Knorr's report at the breakfast table on what had been accomplished world wide this past service year, every one of us was overjoyed. Magazines printed: over 471,000,000, up more than 70,000,000 over the previous year. Bound books printed: 51,000,000, up more than 17½ million. The peak of publishers reached 2,021,432, with more than double that number, 4,550,457, attending the Memorial. That is over 550,000 more than attended the Memorial the year before! But the real thrill came when we heard that 297,872 had been baptized! Here certainly is evidence of an ingathering of the "great crowd" seen by the apostle John as survivors of the coming "great tribulation."

Details of this report as well as an account of the modern-day history of Jehovah's witnesses for the past hundred years are found in the *1975 Yearbook*. Don't fail to get your copy. We feel sure that you will want extra copies for relatives and neighbors too.

The Bethel family also heard a report from Brother F. W. Franz about his recent visit to certain countries to the south. After attending the Trinidad district assembly he spoke at special meetings in São Paulo and Iguazú Falls, Brazil, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in Asunción, Paraguay, and in La Paz, Bolivia. All together, the attendance at these gatherings was upward of 25,000.

Brother Leo Greenlees, also of the governing body, told the Bethel family about his recent visit to the Middle East. In one of the countries where the work is banned, after he overcame difficulties in contacting the brothers, a meeting was quickly arranged. Though it got under way after midnight, they were glad to attend. This was a very special treat for the 50 present, most of whom had never met someone from the Brooklyn Bethel family.

The new arrangement for the Kingdom Ministry School is working well. There are eleven of these "traveling schools," compared with the former five permanently located ones in the United States. Besides being a much more convenient arrangement for the brothers attending, it allows some to attend who formerly could not do so. About 600 are benefiting from this course each month instead of the 250 under the old arrangement, which means that within two years all the present elders could attend. The forward movement of the organization is a pleasure to behold, giving all of us added reason to keep on exulting in Jehovah.

Your brothers,
BROOKLYN BRANCH OFFICE

Daily Exulting in Jehovah

1 Doesn't it warm your heart when you think of the marvelous year of blessings we have experienced as Jehovah's dedicated Christian witnesses? Our heavenly Father has been good to us in so many ways and, as our 1974 yeartext has pointed out, we have been able to exult in Jehovah despite earthly hardships.—Hab. 3:17, 18.

2 Reflecting on what has happened during the calendar year, we realize that there have been many hardships world wide, and our brothers, too, have been affected by them, including such things as food shortages, economic instability, runaway inflation and disasters from storms and earthquakes. Nonetheless, by Jehovah's undeserved kindness we as a people have been extremely joyful. Indeed, our faith has been sustained day by day by remaining close to Jehovah through a study of his Word, meditating on it, sharing it with others and persisting in prayer.

3 Appropriate to the fact that we exult in Jehovah is our literature offer for December. We will be featuring the *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures* and the book *Is This Life All There Is?* Keep in mind, too, that, for persons who may want them, you can obtain the large-print edition of the *New World Translation, The Kingdom Interlinear Translation* and *The Bible in Living English*.

4 Also, during December, we will be having four public talks on the new book *Is This Life All There Is?*, and in the first two service meetings outlined in this *Kingdom Ministry* many of its excellent field points will be featured. Be sure to bring your copy of the book to these two service meetings. Surely this will prepare us to present this book and the Bible to the people. What benefits they will receive as they read the Scriptures and rejoice in what Jehovah's Word has for all of us in these critical and yet thrilling times!

5 Using the Bible and the *This Life* book in combination, you may want to turn to the illustration on page 24, and, after showing the householder this illustration and explaining it briefly, you can read Psalm 90:10. Thereafter, you may want to say: "As you can see, the Bible recognizes the way things are relative to our life-span today. But is this the way it will always be? Please note what is said in this regard at John 17:3, pointing to the hope of everlasting life in a righteous new order." Then read John 17:3. As a suggestion, why not use a new copy of the regular edition of the *New World Translation* and *Is This Life All There Is?* and, after doing what is suggested above, hand them to the householder, saying that these copies can be his for just $1.25. If the householder wants only the new book, then, of course, we will accommodate him.

6 As we approach the new year full of anticipation, we will continue to exert ourselves and exult in Jehovah day by day, realizing that he is directing all things to his glory.—Ps. 145:2.

★ Exult in Jehovah Despite Earthly Hardships. ★

Your Service Meetings

WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 8

10 min: Song 64. Introduction, text and comments.

15 min: "Daily Exulting in Jehovah." Questions and answers. Demonstrate points in paragraph five.

20 min: Getting Acquainted with the *This Life* Book (Part I). Purpose of this part, and one for following week, is to highlight a number of outstanding field points contained in publication. There are basically two groups of people we meet these days: (1) Those who are indifferent, apathetic, materialistic, scientifically oriented. (2) Those who still have respect for the Bible or at least have some belief in its message. (Analyze material in light of type of people found in your territory and spend more time on what would be of greatest benefit locally. When certain pages of book are part of upcoming public talk assignment for that week, give these only brief coverage, encouraging audience to take note of details when the talk is given.)

Chairman asks group of *prepared* publishers the following questions: How might we try to reach the hearts of indifferent, materialistic people? (Pp. 5, 6, 12-16) What points could be used when talking to those who are curious about the occult, communication with the dead, etc.? (Pp. 74-78, 85-88) What might we show to people who are distressed by present world conditions? (Pp. 137-143, 160-166) Publishers use points from book to answer. In doing so, might refer to specific pages in *This Life* book, doing so at a pace that will allow audience to take note of points for future use. Include any good experiences had when using particular material from book.

Urge brothers ahead of time to bring "This Life" book to first two service meetings scheduled in this "Kingdom Ministry," to gain most benefit.

15 min: Concluding comments. (Include accounts report, but not necessary for brother caring for accounts to handle this.) Include appropriate observations from Branch Letter. Urge brothers to bring *This Life* book to service meeting next week and tell them how they can prepare for next week's presentation. Song 72.

WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 15

15 min: Song 75. Introduction, text and comments. Work in local experiences enjoyed thus far in using Bible-book offer, also some items from Theocratic News.

10 min: Holiday Witnessing. Chairman relates special problems in witnessing at world's holiday time, slanting recommendations to local circumstances. We need brief presentation when circumstances require it so as not to irritate householders. Be discerning and adapt to circumstances met at each door with view to leaving householder in good frame of mind insofar as it depends on you. When they are busy, you might say: "Since you are busy, I would just like to mention that we are offering this translation of the Bible written in the language we speak today, together with a Bible study help that really answers the question 'Is This Life All There Is?' on a contribution of $1.25." When persons wish you "Merry Christmas" or the like, there is no need to get into a discussion of the origin of Christmas. Rather, simply acknowledge their well-meant greeting with a friendly smile and a "thank you" as you go on to the next door. Our goal is to win hearts and we can best do that in the house-to-house work by talking about the blessings of God's kingdom wherever possible.

20 min: Getting Acquainted with the *This Life* Book (Part II). Book has excellent arguments and logic designed to help us overcome objections that come up often in the field service. For example, what can we say to people who feel that everlasting life on earth would be boring and impractical? First, ask householder why he feels that way. Allow householder to reply. (May express such thoughts as, 'We would run out of things to do,' or, 'Without sickness and death or some problems we would lose appreciation for the good things in life.') Publisher can reply: 'Do we really need sickness so as not to become bored with good health? People do not lose joy in living because they feel well, do they?' Also, can point out that likely there are many things we would like to do in our lives, such as developing some talent in music, painting, sculpture, or learning something about woodwork, mechanics, designing or architecture. But life is so short. We need time to do these things, and only God's arrangement for everlasting life on earth would provide that time.—Pp. 144-150.

Present this material so the brothers can learn how to overcome objections in a kind, reasoning and logical manner, utilizing points from the book and Bible. As time permits, invite audience to comment on following questions. If some are especially needed in your territory, you may also want to demonstrate them. (1) How can we answer the objection that humans had an existence prior to their present life and will continue to live after they die? (Pp. 53-60) (2) What might we say to people who think that if humans lived forever, tremendous overpopulation and food shortage would result? (Pp. 134-137) (3) Is there a solid hope for the dead? For those who accept the existence of God, why should there be no problem in having a firm belief in the resurrection? (Pp. 166-175) Main thing is to acquaint brothers with this excellent material, featuring that which will be most helpful locally to get through to the minds and hearts of householders so they can profit from our conversation with them. (Give only brief coverage to points that will be handled in public talk for that week.)

15 min: Concluding comments. If new *Yearbook* has arrived, comment on pages 257-259. Also arrange for witnessing on December 25; encourage discernment; call at times that will least disturb householders on December 25 and January 1. Song 74.

WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 22

20 min: Song 73. Introduction, brief discussion of text and stimulating talk on "How Are Jehovah's Witnesses Different?" Include some audience participation. (*Watchtower,* Oct. 15, 1974, pp. 629-631)

20 min: "Building Meeting Attendance." Questions and answers. Conclude with brief, enthusiastic talk based on "A Fine Program of Spiritual Instruction," and encourage any not yet enrolled in Theocratic Ministry School to do so.

20 min: Concluding comments. Use material from pages 5-14 of new *Yearbook.* Include appropriate comments on slogan on page 4. Regarding special arrangements for field service on January 1, 1975, publishers may use magazines rather than subscription offer, if desired. Song 82.

WEEK STARTING DECEMBER 29

20 min: Song 81. Introduction, text and comments, also talk on the question, "Is there any real objection to one of Jehovah's witnesses 'dating' a non-Witness who respects the Christian's beliefs?" (*Watchtower,* Oct. 1, 1974, p. 607) Make warm appeal in talk, showing why Scriptural position is best.

15 min: What Jehovah's Witnesses Are Doing. Talk or discussion based on *1975 Yearbook,* page 14, par. 3, through page 32. Encourage publishers to place *Yearbook* with Bible students, also to make gifts of it to relatives and acquaintances who might read its modern-day history of Jehovah's witnesses.

15 min: Presenting the Good News. Questions and answers. Demonstrate points in paragraphs 3 and 4.

10 min: Concluding comments. Build up appreciation for special service meeting next week. Song 80.

WEEK STARTING JANUARY 5

Please make up your own service meeting. Elders can select appropriate material. As a suggestion, might use some time to discuss new yeartext. See pages 260, 261 of new *Yearbook.*

Announcements

◆ Literature offer for December: *New World Translation* with the book *Is This Life All There Is?,* for $1.25. If supplies of this book run low, use any other 25c publication in combination with the *New World Translation.* For January through April: *Watchtower* subscription, with three booklets, for $1.50. Subscriptions for both *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* may also be offered, with six booklets, for $3.00.

◆ Circuit overseer's talk starting in February: "Put Faith in Jehovah—It Really Means Your Life!" It includes the showing of eighty colored slides.

◆ Beginning in February the public lecture at circuit assemblies will be "Stand Still and See the Salvation of Jehovah."

◆ After December 21, 1974, congregations may submit orders for the 1974 bound volumes of *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* These will be available in English, Dutch, French, German, Portuguese and Spanish. Volumes are $2.50 each. There are no pioneer rates. All orders for bound volumes should be accompanied by the full remittance. We also have in stock *1971 Watchtower* and *Awake!* bound volumes in English, available at the reduced cost of $1.50 each. Any desiring these, please order them along with your current bound volume order.

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Building Meeting Attendance

1 How important are meetings to Jehovah's servants? So important that in some lands our brothers have risked their very lives or freedom to attend regularly. Such ones have recognized that, just as failure regularly to eat wholesome food may eventually produce sickness and even death, so persistent nonattendance at meetings can result in serious spiritual illness. At meetings we receive encouragement to persevere in serving Jehovah despite the many pressures, physical and mental, coming upon us in this dying system of things. Realizing the importance of meeting attendance, what can we do to encourage any of our brothers and sisters who may be 'getting tired and giving out in their souls' to assemble with us and be revitalized in faith and fine works?—Heb. 12: 1, 3; 10:23-25.

2 Primarily the elders in each congregation have the responsibility to "shepherd the flock of God . . . becoming examples to the flock." (1 Pet. 5:2, 3) Since elders also have a large part in teaching the congregation, they can do much to build appreciation for meetings by making them as interesting and instructive as possible through their own good preparation. How much the entire congregation appreciates and benefits from every well-prepared meeting! Too, as elders aid their own families to participate in meetings, this will set a fine example for other family heads.

3 When visiting the homes of brothers, elders may find it beneficial to show a family group, not only how to hold a good family study, but also how to prepare specifically for meetings, how to find and underline answers to questions in the publications, how each family member can be given something to do when getting ready to leave for the meetings, so all will have the necessary supplies. He can encourage individuals and family groups to review the Theocratic Ministry School schedule and the program for the service meeting in the *Kingdom Ministry* each week to see what publications will be needed. These schedules are like a menu outlining the spiritual food that will be enjoyed that evening. They whet our appetites for the meetings.

4 Those having parts on the program should apply the information to local circumstances. When, on certain occasions, an entire portion of a service meeting program does not apply to the congregation (such as an article dealing with isolated territory, in a city congregation where there is no such territory nearby), the elders may choose to substitute a part dealing with some local matter, the consideration of which will be of benefit to the congregation. Everyone having any part on a service meeting can ascertain what, if any, adjustments may be needed to make that part as practical and upbuilding to the congregation as possible.

5 A congregation book study conductor has a fine opportunity to be a blessing to his brothers through his own good preparation. Before coming to meetings, he should have clearly in mind what he wants to teach and how he is going to do this. Obviously, it is necessary to know in advance how much material will be covered. He should be able to recite to himself the main points he wants to teach and it will be helpful if he has review questions prepared. During his concluding comments at the book study, he may, from time to time, whet the appetite of the brothers for the remaining meetings that week by asking two or three questions on high points that will be considered.

6 As elders share in the shepherding work, they can visit those missing meetings and encourage them to attend. In some cases the elders may be able to arrange for them to have transportation, wherever this would encourage more regular attendance. When an emergency occurs that prevents the one being assisted from attending a meeting, however, it would be a kindness to telephone the brother providing transportation so time and money are not wasted. Elders can also help more to participate in meetings by reviewing with them during their visits the suggestions in Studies 7 and 18 in the *School Guidebook.* Surely this will prove to be an occasion for a real interchange of encouragement and will be most faith strengthening.—Rom. 1:11, 12.

7 We will help ourselves to get more benefit from the meetings by preparing for them individually or with our families. If we cannot prepare thoroughly for all the meetings, probably we can consider at least some of the material before attending the meetings. If the entire lesson cannot be studied in preparation for the book study,

(*Continued on page 4, col. 1*)

A Fine Program of Spiritual Instruction

1 The Theocratic Ministry School program that has been arranged for the 1975 calendar year will furnish us with an abundance of spiritual food. All of us will want to benefit from it fully.

2 The schedule has been so arranged that, for any given meeting, much of the material will be drawn from *Aid to Bible Understanding* and one pocket-size book. You will doubtless want to bring these publications, along with your Bible, to the school, with the exception of written review nights.

3 As you look at the schedule, you can see what a wealth of fine material we will cover in the months to come. Even though we have been using the *Aid* book for four years, a vast storehouse of rich spiritual food still remains to be tapped in that publication. So we will continue to make good use of it. Toward the latter part of the year our Bible reading assignments will take us back into the Christian Greek Scriptures, to consider the faithful example of our Lord Jesus Christ! The talks based on *Is This Life All There Is?* can aid us greatly in exposing religious error and in building up others' faith in the dependability of God's promise of everlasting life. Additionally, we will practice discussing God's view on matters of current interest in the world, such as ESP, pornography and mercy killing. Faith strengthening will be the discussions based on experiences of Jehovah's servants in this century who maintained integrity and were strengthened by his spirit to endure under very trying circumstances. Our reviewing the *Organization* book in the school will do much to enhance appreciation for the loving way in which

(*Continued on page 4, col. 3*)

SEPTEMBER SERVICE REPORT

	Pubs.	Av. Hrs.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bi.St.	Av. Mags.
Sp'l Pios.	646	147.6	54.0	4.6	162.9
Pios.	21,130	93.5	34.8	2.8	93.8
Temp. Pios.	10,209	80.2	22.6	1.2	79.2
Pubs.	490,070	9.6	4.2	.5	13.5
TOTAL	522,055				

Newly Dedicated Ones Baptized: 4,356

UNITED STATES GOAL FOR 1975
557,004 Publishers

HOW DID WE DO IN SEPTEMBER?

The new service year got off to a splendid start with 522,055 proclaimers of the good news in the field. This is nearly 10,000 more publishers than for the previous September. Also, 298,740 home Bible studies were conducted. It makes us rejoice to see the fine efforts being put forth to help honest-hearted ones, and what a privilege personally to have a share!

Presenting THE GOOD NEWS

During the "Watchtower" Campaign

¹ Just ahead of us is the thirty-seventh annual *Watchtower* campaign. Jehovah's servants everywhere greatly appreciate the *Watchtower* magazine with its timely counsel, its explanation of "the deep things of God." (1 Cor. 2:10) Whether we are newly associated or have been serving Jehovah for many years, it is not difficult to recall many new and good things we have learned from its pages. Truly it is one of the foremost instruments that Jehovah is using today in progressively revealing the marvelous truths in His Word.—Prov. 4:18.

² Appreciating the spiritual blessings we have received from *The Watchtower* ourselves, we want to see that it regularly reaches as many households as possible. To do this effectively will require good organization and preparation, both individually and congregationally. This year the Society is assisting all of us to use a fresh, attention-getting Scriptural presentation with each issue of *The Watchtower* during the campaign. Yes, we can take the title of the first *Watchtower* article and the scripture featured in bold type with the opening article of each issue during the campaign and use these as the basis for a brief presentation. Thus we can have a presentation tailor-made to the magazine we are offering, showing the householder the spiritual benefits of *The Watchtower*.

³ For example, the January 1, 1975, issue on page 3 has the article "Why Is It So Hard to Make a Living?" We could begin our presentation by asking the householder that very question. Let him comment. Then turn to page 4 and, pointing to the scripture that is made prominent there, say that things have gotten so bad in some places in the world that they are fulfilling what the Bible, in Revelation, foretold, namely, "A whole day's wage for a loaf of bread." (Rev. 6:6, *Weymouth*) Use such appropriate boldface headings as "What Is Behind It?" and "What Can You Do About It?" to show what the article discusses. Also, direct attention to the last page of the article, with the subheading "What the Future Holds," showing what is ahead as outlined in the Bible. Briefly comment, not only on the impending "great tribulation," but also on the grand prospects of God's new order.

⁴ Conclude by showing the need to learn the permanent solution, since these very conditions show that this system is soon to end, and the importance of being on God's side. Knowledge is necessary, and *The Watchtower* is the foremost magazine presenting good news of God's established kingdom. Its refreshing and encouraging message can come twice monthly for a year at a cost of only $1.50.

⁵ You may find when reading the article that there are other points that you would like to use. Fine. Use what works for you. Read from the Bible where you can, but in many cases you may prefer to read scriptures right from the article. This same method can be used with the issues to follow.

⁶ At the meetings for field service during the campaign a brief review of the opening articles in the current *Watchtower* will prove most stimulating to all. Also you will find it beneficial to practice presentations at home. Then we will be able to enjoy one of the finest campaigns yet. Think, too, of the excellent spiritual blessings that will flow to those who are enabled to receive the faith-building information in *The Watchtower* and *Awake!*, to their benefit and to Jehovah's glory.

Building Meeting Attendance *(Cont'd)*

the *Watchtower* study or the Theocratic Ministry School, then why not prepare to answer at least a few questions or even one. Of course, the greater the advance preparation the more we will gain from a study. Participation in the study should be our goal. (Gal. 6:7) Since regular meeting attendance and commenting play an important part in our spiritual growth and fortify us for future tests of our integrity, let's make it our determination to be at all the meetings and encourage others to be present with us.

THEOCRATIC NEWS

- ◆ There are 21,130 regular pioneers on the list now, compared to 17,010 a year ago. Marvelous increase.
- ◆ Despite hurricane Fifi, publishers in Honduras averaged 13 hours; relief work continues and the brothers are well taken care of materially and spiritually.
- ◆ Nigeria had its 6th consecutive peak, with 103,466 sharing the good news.
- ◆ Italy started new service year with 42,850 publishers. Congregation publishers averaged 13.4 hours.
- ◆ Indonesia reports 16th consecutive peak, with 3,881 publishers.
- ◆ Spain's new peak—27,022 publishers!

Question Box

• In a case in which a person, because of genuine repentance, is not disfellowshiped, is it nonetheless proper to restrict him from the preaching work under certain circumstances?

When one is privately or publicly reproved, the information on page 168 of the *Organization* book applies. While it is true that certain restrictions may be placed on such individuals, it is good to note what is said on page 168 regarding the preaching work, namely: "The person would be free to engage fully in the preaching work and to report such . . ." Likely in the case of a notorious situation where one is publicly reproved, it would be the course of wisdom for that one to engage in the preaching work in a section of the territory where the problem is not widely known, at least for a while. It is good to keep in mind that the preaching work is a basic part of our service to God, and all who serve Jehovah should be sharing in it.—Matt. 24:14; 28:18-20.

What about a person who has been reinstated following disfellowshiping? Should he be allowed to engage in the field service immediately? Yes, in harmony with the above thoughts he should be allowed to engage in the field service following reinstatement. As to other privileges in this regard, we can be guided by what is stated in the *Organization* book, page 177.

Spiritual Instruction *(Cont'd)*

Jehovah is dealing with his servants today. And the material from the *Word of God* book can equip us to reach people who doubt the authenticity of the Bible. All of that is included in our school program for 1975!

⁴ When you are scheduled to give talks, you may not be able to use all the material. But be sure to develop the main points. To this end, read the material carefully and then determine what the main points are. A good selection of main points (perhaps three or four) and choice supporting arguments from the material will result in talks that are the most beneficial for everyone present.

★ **Help Others to Attend Meetings.** ★